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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17TH 2015



Everyone here at **The GEM** wishes all our readers and advertisers a very peaceful Christmas. We are now taking a festive break and will not be publishing next week, but we will be back again on Thursday, December 31.



Children, families, staff and supporters all join in the festive fun at Tŷ Hafan.

THERE'S LOTS OF FESTIVE FUN AND PANTOS – Christmas time for the families at Ty Hafan!

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CHRISTMAS is always a busy time at Sully-based Tŷ Hafan, with children, families, staff and supporters all joining in the festive fun.

Generous members of the public have been donating hundreds of pounds worth of toys to the charity as part of the St David's Cardiff Toy Appeal – and they've been warmly welcomed in the hospice play room.

Staff and guests perform two pantomimes every week throughout December!

Stars of stage and screen, and the sports field, including Connie Fisher, Cardiff City FC, Cardiff Devils, Welsh rugby star Ian Gough and Alfie's Angels, have all joined in pantomimes, and taken part in signing sessions and carol concerts.

A spokeswoman said: "Presenters from Nation Radio, The Wave and Capital FM are also due to visit for photo shoots and broadcasts over the next week, before the families, who visit from across Wales, return to their homes and the hospice closes its doors for Christmas.

"The hospice has also hosted visits from corporate partners such as Barclays and Thomas Carroll, and their representatives have been happy to dress up for this year's production of Peter Pan."

Jamie's fund helps to make lives better...

THE Jam Fund, inspired by Jamie Adamson, who died at the age of five in 2005, continues its good work a decade after it was founded.

Jamie's Dad, Paul, told The GEM: "On Christmas Day, I will be releasing 17 balloons at Jamie's graveside on what would have been his 17th birthday. On each balloon is a tag asking anyone who may find one to contact me by email if they know of a child who is poorly and needs the charity's help. I hope that Jamie has some influence in where they land."

For all the latest news on the work of The Jam Fund, turn to page 3.

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HAPPY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR CUSTOMERS!

'Get behind the Daffodil for Marie Curie'

As a Marie Curie nurse, I have the privilege of caring for people living with a terminal illness in their own homes across south west Wales, as well as supporting their loved ones at a very difficult time.

I see first-hand how vital this care and support is in allowing families to make the most of the time they have together.

To enable me and other nurses to continue providing this care, I would like to ask your readers to volunteer for Marie Curie's Great Daffodil Appeal in February and March.

The appeal is the charity's biggest annual fundraising campaign, which has been running for 30 years and has raised more than £73 million since 1986.

Just a small amount of time volunteering to collect donations for the appeal will help Marie Curie nurses to continue to provide care and support for people living with a terminal illness, so they can spend more time with their loved ones.

All readers need to do is spend a couple of hours encouraging people to 'Get behind the Daffodil', by giving a donation and wearing a daffodil pin.

To join the local team of volunteers this February and March, just contact Marie Curie in south west Wales by phoning 01554 759 071, emailing westwalesfundraising@mariecurie.org.uk or signing up online at mariecurie.org.uk/get-involved/daffodil-appeal/next-appeal

Thank you for your support,
Andrea Rees,
Marie Curie nurse

Funding crisis: Care homes versus prisons?

INOTE with interest an article printed in the December 10 issue of The GEM, stating 'Funding crisis threatens care homes in Vale'.

I don't hold a PhD in fiscal studies, but I do know that it costs between £375 to £575 per week to care for a vulnerable adult in a care home setting – whether a subsidy by state is given or not – or self-funding by the individual's assets, such as house and savings etc., are taken by the state to cover care costs.

I have done a little research via Google and have found that it costs £63,000 to imprison a person and then on

average a further £40,000-plus, per annum to keep them (inmates) warm, fed and watered, along with Sky TV, games room, library (ours in the community are being closed) heating, lighting, Wi-Fi etc.

So the average cost of being incarcerated is £833-plus per week.

Should councils and local government be looking in the same direction as me to make the savings?

Or, better still, put our elderly vulnerable adults in the new-build prisons and the inmates in state-funded nursing homes?

Oops, silly me, I have yet to Google 'Human Rights' search. **Steve Spear,**
Rhoose.

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Readers' Letters

Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or email gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

• LETTERS AND E-MAILS MUST INCLUDE FULL ADDRESS AND A CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER.

IMPORTANT: We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. An email address alone is not sufficient! We will (in certain circumstances) protect a writer's identity, if requested.

Syria bombing: A CATCH-22 DILEMMA...

THE outcome of the vote over the bombing of Syria at Westminster means we have a satisfied Prime Minister who was terrified and desperate not to lose a second vote over military action.

Buoyed up by an excessively-biased, right wing media, obsessed with continually castigating Jeremy Corbyn for his 'pacifist' opinions, and the so-called split in the Labour Party – it would appear to be entirely possible for some Tories to share these pacifist views, provided the outcome of the voting was never in doubt!

Not one newspaper had the grace to point out the dilemma facing an opposition leader with a catch-22 situation of free/whip voting.

Ten hours or so of debate

resulted in only two speeches being worthy of acclaim – that is, according to press reports on the Thursday – one by John Baron, a Conservative backbencher who voted against bombing – and one by Hilary Benn, Labour Shadow cabinet member, voting for.

Very little attention was given to the PM's statement, "to vote against bombing were the actions of terrorist sympathisers".

Following the Commons' vote, we were informed by the Secretary of State for Defence, Michael Fallon, that the might of the RAF (two Tornado and four Typhoon jets) would be complementing the 65-plus Russian, and many more American and French aircraft in the region – thus enhancing Great Britain's standing in the

world!

We will be active in bombing oil wells in Syria and Iraq. Are we to assume then that this has not been happening over the past four years?

It is worth pointing out that with all the hype lavished on Westminster, less interest was devoted to the by-election in Oldham, where, for the first time since 2010, the Labour Party increased its share of the vote, to the detriment of other parties.

As we are now in the Advent season of peace and goodwill to all, and as a Christian country we look forward to celebrating Christ's birth, it would appear that someone else with the initials JC must be doing something right.

CM James,
Barry

Tools with a Mission appeal

ON behalf of Tools With A Mission (UK) and organisations around the world that we have been able to help during 2015, volunteers at the TWAM Cymru unit in Penarth would like to thank all those from Cardiff and the Vale who have donated tools, haberdashery and other equipment.

We would also like to thank those who donated money and/or invited us to speak to their clubs and societies.

The donations have enabled the unit to forward some eight tonnes of cleaned and refurbished equipment

to the UK headquarters in Ipswich during 2015, who have themselves been able to dispatch 20 x 20ft containers, predominantly to sub-Saharan Africa.

If you have any tools you no longer need (perhaps you'll get some new ones for Christmas), please consider donating the unwanted ones to us – a list of what we need can be found at www.twam.co.uk/tools.html.

We can be contacted at: twamcymru@gmail.com or by telephone on 07814 573696, or 07763 123683. **Andy Bowdler,**
Dinas Powys.

Follow The GEM on Twitter - find us @gem_news

Light up the town!

AT last, some of the shopkeepers in Cowbridge have found their Christmas spirit and discarded those dreadful artificial Christmas trees and put up beautiful, real ones instead. What a difference they make to the shops concerned.

Come on, the rest of you, it's time to follow suit! Oh, and please bring back the pretty coloured lights, instead of those dreary white ones.

Elaine Jones, Cowbridge.

Animal charity thanks shoppers

THANK you generous shoppers of Cowbridge. We collected £461 on Friday, December 4 for dog rescue.

Thank you for all your interest – we met lovely people and many thanks to all the volunteers and dogs.

A VERY, VERY huge thank-you to Mr Davies and family (who work with Catherine Howell)

for their generous donation. To June and Rhys Morgan – thank you for always counting the proceeds and topping up the denominations to full bags.

Thanks to The Bear and The Quarter Penny for my cappuccinos! Wishing everyone peace and prosperity - Merry Christmas.

Cheryl Morgan-Veck,
Friends Of Many Tears Animal Rescue

'Only a Welsh Assembly will listen to Wales'

IN response to Mr David Bevan's recent letter about his new 'Abolish the Welsh Assembly' party, I hope no-one supports his cause. It is because of the Assembly that we have several benefits the English, under the Tory Government, have lost and will keep losing.

Just one example, is our Welsh NHS – still a national health service – as opposed to the creeping privatisation that the English NHS is undergoing.

If we ever fall for the call from this new party and give up our Welsh Assembly, we will regret it for the rest of our days.

Far from abolishing the Welsh Assembly, we must demand even more powers – for only a Welsh Government can truly serve Wales and feel obliged to listen to Welsh voices – not Westminster.

Marj Delaney, Barry

FLOODING: IS COWBRIDGE NEXT IN LINE?

IN the light of the serious flooding and associated power cuts and even deaths around the country, I am extremely concerned that Cowbridge could be next.

The developer CEG and the landowner Mr John Homfray have applied for up to 500 houses on Darren Farm land, an already waterlogged area (as The GEM photos showed

clearly around Llanfrynach Church in March).

These extra 1,400-plus people will produce an enormous amount of water and sewerage effluent – and where will it all go? Cowbridge is situated in a basin and cannot sustain such huge increases.

I have heard others expressing their concern too and we would all like to know how this matter is to be addressed by our local council members.

Mrs M Prosser,
Cowbridge.

'THANK YOU'

IWISH to thank the two ladies who helped me in Morrison's on Tuesday, November 17, when I had a vertigo attack.

One very kindly stayed with me, while the other found the on-duty First Aider manager (Mark) when a wheelchair was found for me. They were so very helpful. Thank you.
Mrs Shirley Payne,
Rhoose.

HIGH TIDE TIMES (UNTIL DECEMBER 24)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
17 Thur	10.14	9.2	22.41	8.8
18 Fri	11.09	8.8	23.39	8.6
19 Sat			12.12	8.6
20 Sun	00.48	8.5	13.13	8.6
21 Mon	01.59	8.6	14.33	8.7
22 Tues	03.11	8.8	15.41	9.0
23 Wed	04.14	9.2	16.43	9.4
24 Thur	05.11	9.6	17.36	9.7

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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In season of goodwill – how Barry's Jam Fund helps families in their time of need

THE Jam Fund, which was started in memory of Jamie Adamson who died of cancer at the age of just five in 2004, continues to help families in their time of greatest need.

Jamie's father Paul Adamson said: "In the last 12 months the charity has raised approx £10,000. Since it was established in 2005 it has raised over £400,000 and helped numerous youngsters suffering from ill health as well as providing support for their families. It has also helped six youngsters go to America for medical treatment. "In just the last three months, the fund has spent over £7,000 in donations to children and support groups in the Vale."

The charity gave a £1,000 donation to the family of three-year-old Romeo Hadley in Wenvoe. The Hadley family moved to a bungalow to make life easier for Romeo who lost both his legs to a viral illness. The money helped towards a bedroom makeover for Romeo and his sister.

The Jam Fund gave Sebastian Sargent, who suffers from cerebral palsy, £2,000 towards the £4,000 cost of his all terrain wheelchair.

Paul knows Sebastian's father well.

"Adam, who works for the parks department, let me use the Jenner Park running track to train for the London Marathon in 2012."

"The fund has also been able to help the Davey

family who tragically lost two daughters, Gemma and Bethan to cystic fibrosis.

"They had been saving towards a fitting memorial headstone for the girls and the Jam Fund was able to help. As a parent who has also lost children I felt a certain empathy with the family."

The fund has helped four families in Barry to commemorate loved ones.

Another youngster the fund has helped is Perri a three year old girl from the Isle of Wight who has suffered from cancer.

Paul explained: "Last year I released 16 red balloons on Christmas Day at Jamie's graveside. It was 16 because it would have been his 16th birthday."

"People who found tags on the balloons were able to nominate a youngster who needed help."

"A lady nominated Perri who received £1,000 for a pink princess bedroom makeover, including wardrobes, bedding curtains and wallpaper and all the bedroom fittings. The family were delighted."

A Rhosue group also benefitted thanks to the fund's generosity. The Vale parent and child homework support group run by Cath Watkins and Maria Thompson was given £1,200 to help buy equipment and textbooks to help keep the club going for 12 months.

Paul added: "I would like to thank everyone who has supported our charity this year, including those who ran for the charity in the Cardiff half marathon and London Marathon and all those who sponsored them."

"I am very keen to thank all the local businesses who kindly host a Jam Fund charity collection pot, and thank the Mayor of Barry from last year, Coun Geoff Evans, who supported the charity in his year of office."

"I am very keen to get a large team into the Cardiff Half marathon in 2016 which takes place in October. The charity provides sponsorship forms, a team running vest and we also have an online fund raising page at Virgin Money Giving.com."

If you would like to support The Jam Fund, you can contact Paul at the following email: jamfund@sky.com.



Sebastian Sargent from Penarth – The Jam Fund provided a donation to the cost of his all-terrain wheelchair.



by GEM REPORTER



The Hadley family with son Romeo.



Denise Jones representing The Jam Fund makes a presentation of £1,000 to the Davey family.

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Local CAP Job Club gets off to a positive start

THE people of Penarth have welcomed a new job club aimed at helping residents improve their employability in tough economic times.

CAP Job Club, run by Tabernacle Baptist Church, is a service devised by national charity Christians Against Poverty, which trains job coaches to equip people with the tools and skills to find employment.

One of the recent club attendees, Paul, said: "The Job Club for me was fantastic. It helped me with my job searching, preparation

and general confidence, and I was fortunate enough to secure a job before the end of the course. The job coaches were helpful and supportive and I'd like to thank them for putting the course on. I'd also like to say to anyone looking for work or wanting to move to a different job to go to the Job Club."

To find out more about CAP Job Clubs or to book your place, visit capjobclubs.org or telephone 0800 3280006. You can also contact local coaches Steve Roberts on 07970 757225 or Dave Meadows on 07979 189908.

Sully U3A end the year with a song!

SULLY U3A ended the year with their Christmas social and chairman, Jean Bispham thanked the committee and all those who had contributed to the afternoon.

While enjoying the buffet, members had two quizzes and were also entertained by the 'Singing for Pleasure' group, who sang a selection of seasonal songs.

Their performance was much enjoyed and afterwards they led members in a selection of carols.

The group has been busy with performances

for the Mayor of Penarth's inauguration service, Penarth Ladies' Probus Group and also for the residents at Morrell Court, Penarth.

Prizes for the winners of the quizzes and the draw for the raffle rounded off a very enjoyable and happy afternoon.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, January 14 at 2pm in The Old School, Sully, when the speaker will be Sharon Owen from the Welsh Hearts Foundation. New members are welcome to join at this first meeting for 2016.

SC



Archbishop Barry and Mrs Hallett with pupils around the Advent candles.

Archbishop of Wales emphasises the importance of school assemblies

PRIMARY school pupils learnt about shepherd's crooks and mitres when the Archbishop of Wales joined them for their morning assembly this week.

Dr Barry Morgan paid a visit to St Andrew's Major Church in Wales School and took his pastoral staff, cope and mitre with him to explain their significance to the children.

During the assembly, the pupils also lit a candle to mark the second week in Advent.

Headteacher Mrs Gen Hallett said: "We were delighted to welcome Archbishop Barry to our

assembly and the children had a lot of fun learning about the symbolism of what bishops wear."

The visit was organised by Father Andrew James, priest-in-charge of St Andrew's Major, a familiar face in the school as he takes assembly there once a week.

The Archbishop, who served as a curate in St Andrew's Major at the start of his ministry 40 years ago, said: "It was a real pleasure to join the staff and children at their assembly as they marked the second week in Advent, and I was very impressed at how much they knew about what Advent is all about. They reflected on the words 'compassionate' and 'preparation' and even the youngest children in reception knew what they meant."

"School assemblies like this are important because they give children the opportunity to come out of the classroom and look at

the big issues in life – how we treat each other, what we value, what faith and spirituality mean to us and to

others. It teaches them that school and life are about so much more than just academic attainment."

Forum hears of life in Met

AFTER welcoming two new members, Graham Williams and Brian Mills, the vice-chairman introduced the speaker at last week's meeting of the Barry Men's Forum – Mrs Helen Jones, from Caerphilly (now living in Swansea) who spent 20 years mostly in the Metropolitan Police Murder Squad, as it was then called, but now Americanised to Homicide.

After 15 weeks training at Hendon, she was posted to Chelsea which she was delighted with, there being fewer violent crimes etc in the borough! On her first day on the beat, she met Douglas Fairbanks Jr, who turned hearts a flutter, when he spoke. She soon got used to meeting famous people.

She related numerous amusing incidents in her life as a PC, before being transferred to the Murder Squad, which she assured us was nothing like the television portrayals of detective stories.

During her time, she was involved at various levels with a number of high-profile cases, the first being Peter Sutcliffe, the serial killer. This case brought in big changes via 'HOLMES' a Home Office scheme still in use.

After detailing the

investigation process, members then had some homework and were given a fictitious case to solve.

New members are very welcome, at £2 per meeting, which includes light refreshments. The Barry Men's Forum meet at the Trinity Presbyterian Church Hall, every Thursday at 10.15am.

The next meeting is on January 7, when Clive Simms will be giving a musical deliberation called 'Winter Music'. For further information, contact 02920 594881.

PMW

ELDERLY NEED NOT BE ALONE

NATIONAL charity partners Friends of the Elderly and Community Christmas are connecting people within communities on Christmas Day.

A spokeswoman explained: "If family, neighbours and friends aren't around on Christmas Day, it can be difficult to find something to do. Many of the usual places you would go to see a friendly face are closed, and the buses may not be running to help you get there anyway."

"That's why people of all ages across the country are putting on activities on Christmas Day and inviting fellow community members to join them."

"The Community Christmas website is a one-stop shop for finding activities on Christmas Day in your area. Activities range from a meet-up for a cup of tea and a chat, to a full Christmas lunch. Some pubs and restaurants are operating a 'book alone but don't dine alone' system, for those who are looking for a little conversation over their Christmas dinner."

Visit the 'search for an event' page at www.communitychristmas.org.uk or call Community Christmas on 0844 443 0662.

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Sunday
20th December,
6.00pm
CAROL SERVICE

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord
Luke 2:11

Thursday
24th December,
6.00pm
CHRISTMAS EVE CAROL SERVICE

Friday
25th December,
10.00am
CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE

Bethel Baptist Church, Harbour Road, Barry
www.bethelbarry.org

Hafod invite
HAFOD'S Golau Caredig Extra Care Housing on Broad Street, Barry, is inviting Vale residents to join them at Christmas events.

A small charge will be made for refreshments on December 17 at 7pm for a brass band concert; and Monday, December 21 (2pm-4pm) a quiz with mince pies, teas and coffees.

Service
CADOXTON Christian Spiritualist Church, Kenilworth Road, Barry, is holding a candlelit carol service on Wednesday, December 23 at 7pm; all are welcome.



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SANTA CLAUS IS IN DINAS - AND HELPING TY HAFAN!



Santa arrived at the home of Mr Guy Chapman, Station Road, Dinas Powys in early December and it's all in aid of a Wishing Well collection for the Ty Hafan Children's Hospice.

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Christmas service

PARK Funeral Directors will be hosting a Christmas service of Remembrance today at 4.30pm (Thursday, December 17) in King Square, Barry.

It is planned to have a horse-drawn hearse on display, as well as bagpiper John Campbell and doves which are sometimes released at funerals, to demonstrate choices available to grieving families.

A spokesperson said: "The short service gives people of all faiths (or no faith) the opportunity to take some quiet time during the busy festive period, to join together to remember

and give thanks for friends and family, missing this Christmas.

"Everyone is invited to take part and place a commemorative tag in memory of their loved one on our Christmas tree in the square and then join us over the road at our premises for a warm drink and a mince pie.

"The tree and the dedicated tags will then feature in our window display over the festive period and can be added to at any time."

The service is open to all members of the public. Park Funerals are on 01446 421212, or by email to enquiries@parkfunerals.co.uk.

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Barbecued pieces of chicken with fresh garlic, mustard, chilli sauce served with crisp red chillies
Chicken or Lamb Goan£5.90
Tandoori baked chicken tikka in a blend of exotic spices and fresh chillies
Chicken or Lamb Chilli Masala£5.90
Boneless chicken with fresh ginger a touch of garlic and green chilli
Sabzee Gosth£5.90
Lamb cooked with vegetables in a thick spicy bhuna sauce
Achari Murg£5.90
Chicken cooked with mix pickle in a thick sauce
Murghi Masala£5.90
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Rich with herbs & spices in a thick sauce with grilled tomato
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Captain Pathila (medium or hot).....£5.90
Strips of chicken with very special herbs & spices including coriander, mint, garlic & yoghurt in a rich tangy sauce.
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Fairly hot with chopped green chillies

SELECTION OF NEW DISHES

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Med or hot lamb tikka with spinach, chick peas & spicy sauce
Gosht Kufta£6.50
Med or hot spicy meatballs & roasted tomatoes in thick sauce
Chicken Tikka Anarkali£5.95
Sweet and hot
Naga Chilli Masala£5.95
Chicken tikka with Mr Naga and chilli sauce madras hot
Bombay Bahar£6.20
Lamb tikka, chicken tikka with potato, garlic and chilli sauce (fairly hot)
Bombay Karela£6.20
Chicken tikka, lamb tikka, green beans, pepper and green chilli (Madras hot)
Spicy Chicken Tikka£5.90
Papadam Special Biryani.....£7.50
Paneer Pasanda£5.00
Murgh Podina£5.90
Thinly sliced filler of chicken, cooked in a mild cream sauce and garden mint
Shagorana Bhuna£6.20
Shatkorra Chicken or Lamb£5.90
Famous Bangladeshi taste of citrus flavour medium dish
Peri Peri Chicken£5.90
Chicken and Lamb cooked with special peri sauce
Butter Chicken Supreme£5.90
Boneless chicken cooked with spices, herbs and butter with special sauce
King Prawn Korahi (medium spiced)£8.50
Tandoori King Prawn Masala (medium spiced)£8.50
Tandoori baked king prawn simmered in oriental spices and tomatoes

Set Meals
For 1 £11.50
Chicken tikka, korai chicken, bombay aloo, pilau rice, nan.
For 2 £19.90
Chicken tikka, onion bhajee, chicken tikka, massala, korai lamb, mushroom bhajee, 2 pilau rice, 1 plain nan.

Midweek special offer Sunday to Thursday
1 onion bhajee, 1 chicken madras, 1 chicken korma, 1 pilau rice, 1 plain nan bread, mint sauce & onion salad.
only £12.95

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2 pilau rice, 1 nan, 2 papadam.
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DINAS' DICKENSIAN FAIR DEFIED THE ELEMENTS!

THE strong winds did not deter villagers, stallholders or the Rotary Club at the annual Dickensian Evening held in the heart of Dinas Powys.

Although a few gazebos suffered damage and some banners could not be erected, none of this stopped a great community event.

This year there were not one but two bands preforming traditional carols, the Vale of Glamorgan Band and a Scouts quartet entertained the crowds at either end of the Twyn.

There were well established societies present including the WI, Plaid Cymru, Foodbank, Guides, Scouts and Bethesda Chapel. Welcome visitors were the Penarth and District friends of Lesotho.

A new addition was the Dinas Powys Community Library. Volunteers are working to ensure that the local library continues once

the Vale Council budget cuts come fully into effect. The music festival was present giving advance notice of the 2016 event. Become a Friend of the Festival to avoid disappointment.

There was plenty of food and drink provided by the Scouts, who cooked huge quantities of beef burgers!

Hot chocolate was available on the Plaid Cymru stand and home made cakes courtesy of the WI.

A lucky dip was organised by Coun Steve Thomas on behalf of ValePlus, the charity which provides opportunities for people with disabilities.

Father Christmas did a roaring trade. The sports clubs were well represented such as football, cricket, swimming and tennis.

Once again, the Rotary Club of Dinas Powys did an excellent job organising on the night, working in sometimes difficult conditions. Another first class community occasion, and a great night was had by all. CF



Coun Chris Franks, Enid (Banana) Jackson and Cathie Jackson at the Fairtrade stall.



Rhoose WI celebrates its 70th anniversary – with a special cake!

RHOOSE WI has had a busy autumn season, leading up to Christmas and its 70th anniversary celebration.

In late October, members visited Cribb's Causeway to begin Christmas shopping, and a barn dance at the November meeting added to the sense of celebration for the WI.

Also in November, members participated in the Remembrance Day parade and service, during which the president laid a wreath on behalf of the Institute.

Afterwards, members provided refreshments for everyone who had attended the service in the packed Community Hall.

On November 11, a trip to the Hall at Abbey Cwm Hir was on the agenda. Touring this house, with all its 52 rooms decorated for Christmas, was an extraordinary experience.

Beautifully maintained, the sheer numbers of decorated Christmas trees and the collections of artefacts made over the years by the owners had to be seen to be believed!

The December meeting marked the WI's 70th anniversary itself. The Community Hall was festively decorated with flowers and the WI banners, as members enjoyed a celebratory meal, the centre of which was the anniversary cake, beautifully decorated by Stella Hughes with the WI logo and NFWI centenary rose.

President Jenny Reed welcomed members and special guests –

Glamorgan Federation president Carolyn Davies, secretary June Humphrey and the Heritage Link presidents of St Athan, Boverton and Llanmaes. The president of Llantwit Major was unable to attend due to commitment at her own WI, but kindly sent a card and gift on behalf of Llantwit members.

Jenny Reed and the other speakers stressed the great friendships they had made in the WI at all levels, a sentiment echoed by members.

Presentations were made at the end of the evening: Pam Jupp winning the Competition Cup for 2015 with Jan Dally as runner-up.

Rhoose WI's longest-serving member, Grace Watkins, presented a book of photographs she had made for members to enjoy. A number of raffle prizes were drawn, after which the Welsh and British national anthems were sung.

The president thanked everyone for making the party a great success, wishing all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The final event of 2015 for the WI will be the Christmas lunch at the Victoria Inn at Sigintone.

The next meeting will be at the Community Hall, Stewart Road, on January 7, at 7.30pm, when members will be able to participate in some in-house entertainment. Members are also reminded that subscriptions of £37.50 are due at the meeting.

Visitors and new recruits will be very welcome.

BARRY TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC NOTICE

MERTHYR DYFAN CEMETERY, BARRY SURVEY OF MEMORIAL SURVEY

Barry Town Council gives notice that in accordance with the Health & Safety at Work Act 1974 (HASWA) and the Management of Health & Safety at Work Regulations 1998 a headstone/memorial safety survey has been undertaken at the Merthyr Dyfan Cemetery, to establish the condition of headstone/memorials in Sections D, Q and T in the Cemetery.

After a full and exhaustive search the Council have been unable to make contact with all the relevant deed owners/family members of graves in those sections. Therefore please find below a list of grave spaces found to be unsafe, and where the Council have been unable to contact owners of family members:-

Section D	Section H	Section J	Section P	Section Q	Section R	Section RC	Section T	Section Y
D 51	H 529 B	J 232	P 2	Q 72	R 35	RC 52	T 52	Y 183
D 206	H 675		P 16	Q 256	R 57		T 56	
D 232	H 967		P 17	Q 262	R 71		T 113	
D 235	H 954		P 27		R 78		T 120	
D 259	H 1084 A		P 28		R 89		T 121	
	H 1114 B		P 46		R 94		T 176	
	H 1178		P 63		R 104		T 185	
	H 1384 B		P 76		R 111		T 307	
	H 1522		P 119		R 120		T 327	
	H 1620		P 120		R 122		T 336	
	H 1692		P 161		R 129		T 343	
			P 181		R 170		T 348	
			P 181 A		R 174		T 396	
			P 211		R 251		T 412	
			P 211 A		R 273		T 415	
			P 279		R 321		T 417	
			P 285		R 336		T 507	
			P 333		R 374		T 511 A	
			P 363					
			P 377					
			P 391					
			P 392					
			P 400					
			P 778					
			P 811					
			P 828					
			P 836					
			P 831					
			P 823					
			P 831					
			P 709					
			P 754					

I would ask that any next of kin or anyone who believes they may have family buried in any of the above sections of Merthyr Dyfan Cemetery contact:-

Mrs Angie Norman, Acting Town Clerk, Barry Town Council
7 Gladstone Road, Barry CF62 8NA. Tel: 01446 704920

Office opening hours:- Monday – Thursday 8.30am-5.00pm; Friday 8.30am-4.30pm

Dated this day, 17th December 2015

CYNGOR TREF Y BARRI HYSBYSIAD CYHOEDDUS MYNWENT MERTHYR DYFAN Y BARRI AROLWG DIOGELWCH CERRIG BEDDAU

Mae Cyngor Tref Y Barri yn hysbysu, yn unol â Deddf Iechyd & Diogelwch yn y Gwaith 1974 (HASWA) a Rheoliadau Rheoli Iechyd & Diogelwch yn y Gwaith 1998, cynhaliwyd arolwg o ddiogelwch cerrig beddau ym Mynwent Merthyr Dyfan, er mwyn sefydlu cyflwr cerrig beddau yn Adrannau D, H, J, P, Q, R, RC, T & Y yn y Fynwent.

Yn dilyn ymchwiliad llawn a thrylwyr nid yw'r Cyngor wedi gallu cysylltu â'r holl berchnogion gweithredoedd perthnasol/aelodau teuluoedd beddau yn yr adrannau hynny. Felly, wele isod restr o leodd beddau y canfuwyd iddynt fod yn annigol, a lle y methodd y Cyngor â chysylltu â pherchnogion aelodau teuluoedd:-

Adran D	Adran H	Adran J	Adran P	Adran Q	Adran R	Adran RC	Adran T	Adran Y
D 51	H 529 B	J 232	P 2	Q 72	R 35	RC 52	T 52	Y 183
D 206	H 675		P 16	Q 256	R 57		T 56	
D 232	H 967		P 17	Q 262	R 71		T 113	
D 235	H 954		P 27		R 78		T 120	
D 259	H 1084 A		P 28		R 89		T 121	
	H 1114 B		P 46		R 94		T 176	
	H 1178		P 63		R 104		T 185	
	H 1384 B		P 76		R 111		T 307	
	H 1522		P 119		R 120		T 327	
	H 1620		P 120		R 122		T 336	
	H 1692		P 161		R 129		T 343	
			P 181		R 170		T 348	
			P 181 A		R 174		T 396	
			P 211		R 251		T 412	
			P 211 A		R 273		T 415	
			P 279		R 321		T 417	
			P 285		R 336		T 507	
			P 333		R 374		T 511 A	
			P 363					
			P 377					
			P 391					
			P 392					
			P 400					
			P 778					
			P 811					
			P 828					
			P 836					
			P 831					
			P 823					
			P 831					
			P 709					
			P 754					

Dylai unrhyw berthynas agosaf neu unrhyw un sy'n credu efallai fod ganddynt aelod o'r teulu wedi'u claddu yn yr adrannau uchod ym Mynwent Merthyr Dyfan gysylltu â:-

Mrs Angie Norman, Clerc Gweithredol y Dref, Cyngor Tref Y Barri
7 Heol Gladstone, Y Barri CF62 8NA. Ffôn: 01446 704920.

Oriau agor y swyddfa: Dydd Llun – Dydd Iau 8.30am-5.00pm; Dydd Gwener 8.30am-4.30pm

Dyddiedig y diwrnod hwn, 17 Rhagfyr 2015

JENNER PARK PUPILS ENJOY THE CHRISTMAS STORY AND CAROLS



Butterflies raises £500 for Atal Y Fro



Jane Hutt AM with Kay Quinn from Atal Y Fro and Butterflies Boutique staff. Image by Jeff Baker.

ON December 3, Vale AM Jane Hutt congratulated Butterflies Boutique in Barry at its 'women's evening' as it presented Atal Y Fro with a cheque for almost £500 following a week of fundraising.

Atal Y Fro is a Vale-based charity supporting victims of domestic violence. The evening also marked the start of the charity's Christmas campaign to raise awareness of its services.

More information can be found at atalyfro.wordpress.com/ or by calling 01446 744755.

Vale forum's festive meet

ON Tuesday, December 8, 12 members of the Vale 50+ Strategy Forum transport task group enjoyed a Christmas meal at a local restaurant in Barry.

We have had a busy year and members chilled out exchanging cards and reminiscing. After we had eaten our fill, we had a short meeting and left feeling happy and ready for the festive season!

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 9 and our speaker will be Sian Summer-Rees, director of the Wales Community Transport Association, who will give a Powerpoint presentation about her organisation which will include a Q&A session.

To become a member, or for more information on the work of the Vale 50+ Strategy Forum, visit our website www.valeopf.co.uk or phone VOGC Older People's Coordinator John Porter on 01446 709779 (or email jporter@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk).

AML

BOXING DAY WALK

THE free Dinas Powys Boxing Day Walk organised by Dinas Powys Community Council, will start at 2pm from Dinas Powys Village Square.

A spokesman said: "It's a countryside fun walk, great for families and friends - wear wellies or boots as paths are likely to be muddy in places. The walk should take around one and a half hours. Well-behaved dogs are welcome, but owners should be aware there will be stiles."

A spokeswoman reported: GLYN SEBBURN came to school to help plant trees with gardening reception class and year-1 in the garden area of Jenner Park.

All the children were eager to help and look forward to watching the trees growing!

Reception class enjoyed helping plant the trees all around the garden area. Mrs Stanley's class, year-1, also enjoyed a spot of gardening and planted trees.

Christmas stories

RECEPTION class children are delighted with their festive classroom and new fireplace designed and created by very talented Mrs Famberly.

They all enjoyed a Christmas story and singing Christmas carols. Santa is watching while the class is working hard learning Christmas songs to perform for their parents, who have helped by providing costumes for the concerts.

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Restaurant & Takeaway

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4 COURSE MEAL

Only £8.95pp

Mon - Thurs 5.30 - 7pm

2 FOR 1 MON-THURS

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(TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY)

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maesglasvets.co.uk

Councillors draw theValePlus raffle



Christingle in Barry

THIS Sunday (December 20) there will be the service of Christingle, particularly for families and children.

All the children will receive a Christingle – an orange with a candle representing Christ as the light of the world. The service begins at 4pm and lasts for less than one hour and for many it will provide a lovely opportunity to prepare for the coming of

Christmas.

This year the traditional service of Midnight Mass will be on Christmas Eve at 8pm and on Christmas morning carols and sung Mass begin at 10.15am.

Father Robert Parrish, Rector of St Paul's and Merthyr Dyfan churches sends best wishes for a happy Christmas to everyone.

St Paul's is in St Paul's Avenue, and was the first Anglican church built for the new town of Barry in 1892.

TS

PICTURED: Steve Thomas of ValePlus (left) with Dinas Powys chairman, Coun Keith Hatton, and Barry councillor, Coun Ian Johnson. Coun Michael Mason from Llantwit Major was also at the draw.

LOCAL councillors from Barry, Dinas Powys and Llantwit Major teamed up to help draw the ValePlus Christmas raffle last week.

"ValePlus would like to thank everybody who has contributed both to the Christmas raffle and the organisation's success in 2015," a spokesperson said.

AM tells of 'full and open discussion' at Mosque



THE Vale AM, Jane Hutt, is pictured above, during a visit to the Barry Mosque with local councillor Pam Drake, to "bring a message of friendship and support to the Muslim community".

She said that she told members of the Mosque how proud she was to represent them in the National Assembly. "There was a full and open discussion about needs, experiences and understanding about the message of peace the Islamic faith brings," she commented. "It was agreed that education was vital to develop mutual understanding and to overcome misunderstandings, ignorance and prejudice."

"It was a great privilege to visit the Mosque and to meet the members who live in the Vale of Glamorgan with their families, providing a major contribution to our businesses and the community," the AM added.

Go to the **The GEM** for the latest stories and breaking news...
www.barry-today.co.uk
www.llantwit-major-today.co.uk

'Buy local at Christmas' SHOPPERS ARE URGED

PRODUCERS in the Vale are calling on shoppers to support their local markets and retailers this Christmas.

From turkey and all the trimmings to festive favourites like mince pies and mulled wine, the complete Christmas is just on the doorstep. There are a whole host of producers who sell locally through a network of Farmers' Markets, farm shops, delis and also online.

Myfanwy Edwards of Vale Farmers Markets, said: "Our market has been established for 15 years. We have a wide range of fantastic produce from meat and vegetables to bread, cheese, beers, eggs and chocolates... everything you would want for a great local Christmas."

"The producers come from all over south Wales. Come and support them and buy local this Christmas!"

"As well as the Vale Farmers' Market, there are a number of other events and fairs happening this season where you can pick up some great local produce:

Saturday, December 19, 10am-4pm; Sully Christmas Market, Sully Sports & Social Club.

10am-4pm; Llantwit Major Christmas Market - town centre.

9am-12.30pm; Vale Farmers' Market - Penarth, Westbourne School.

Sunday, December 20, 10am-4pm; Sully Christmas Market, Sully Sports & Social Club.

Tuesday, December 22, 9.30am-12.30pm; Cowbridge Country Market - Cowbridge Lesser Hall.

Wednesday, December 23, 9am-12pm; Vale Farmers' Market - Cowbridge, Arthur John's.

What's in your bin?

Tel: 01446 700111 Email: visible@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

How to REDUCE, REUSE and RECYCLE your waste this Christmas



- ✳ The Vale's recycling kerbside collection service can take your food waste, from your turkey carcass to your veg peelings, it can all be turned to compost at a facility local to the Vale of Glamorgan.
- ✳ Your Christmas wrapping paper can be recycled in your blue bag or green box, all we ask is that you remove any traces of sticky tape. We cannot recycle any glittery/shiny metallic paper.
- ✳ Christmas cards can be placed in your blue bag or green box. Please remove any sticky tape, bows, glitter or tinsel.
- ✳ Our partners at Love Food Hate Waste have some great tips and recipes this Christmas: www.lovefoodhatewaste.com/content/christmas-cracker

Christmas Tree Recycling Collection in January

Christmas Trees will be collected from the kerb side on householders' weekly recycling collection day from **Monday 11 January to Friday 15 January**. Only real trees will be collected, please strip off all decorations and put out for collection by 7.00am.

Changes to your Collection Day from March 2016

As from **7 March 2016** some household collection days will change as part of a route planning exercise being undertaken by the Council to ensure its waste collection fleet operates as efficiently as possible. Letters to residents notifying them of any changes will be distributed in **February 2016** with online calendars updated in the New Year.

Please see changes to Christmas Collection dates →



www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/recycle

Normal Day:

Will now be:

Friday 25 December	- Sunday 27 December
Monday 28 December	- Tuesday 29 December
Tuesday 29 December	- Wednesday 30 December
Wednesday 30 December	- Thursday 31 December
Thursday 31 December	- Saturday 2 January 2016
Friday 1 January 2016	- Sunday 3 January 2016

Call banks to account by switching to rivals!

WHEN did you last move your bank account? As the old saying goes – you are, statistically speaking, more likely to get divorced than move your money to another bank.

This subject has become all the more relevant in light of the recent closure of NatWest in Llantwit Major, and the announcement from Barclays, confirming plans to close their branch in the town.

I immediately met with senior management of Barclays to express my serious concerns. I have organised a non-political meeting with local civic leaders tomorrow in Llantwit Hall, to discuss the wider issues and the impact on Llantwit Major.

Local councillors and Welsh Assembly members have been invited, in the expectation of working together to do all we can to ensure that all avenues have been explored by Barclays.

I am extremely disappointed that Barclays determined that Llantwit Major no longer fits into their plans and expressed my feelings in the most forthright manner. However, we must work positively to achieve a helpful outcome. That is why I have called the meeting tomorrow to discuss a way forward that the town can get behind.

The switching of bank accounts has never been easier; the result is that more of us are going through the process than



Vale MP
ALUN CAIRNS
reports to our
GEM readers

ever before. It is remarkably simple: I know many people locally who have recently moved bank accounts and I have yet to hear about a bad experience. *If you have found the process difficult, please let me know – or why not consider moving your accounts to a bank that is servicing Llantwit Major and the Vale?*

The Current Account Switching Service was set up to specifically provide a hassle-free service for a customer to switch bank accounts in less than a week.

The switching of accounts is often associated with thoughts of digging out account numbers, old standing orders and numerous direct debit agreements. However, the process is all handled automatically – you simply contact your branch, tell them

the date you want to move your account, and that is it.

The service is free to use, and the entire change-over is dealt with by your new bank.

If you have thought about switching, but never got round to it – and in light of any possible changes to your local services – head to www.simplerworld.co.uk.

The switching process is identical, whichever bank you use, and once you have indicated the bank you would like to join – sit back and relax while the new bank does the heavy lifting.

I would encourage everyone with concerns about local banking services to try the service – and please let me know your feedback on how the process went. I will put anonymous comments on my Facebook page, in an effort to encourage further switchers, and I hope this can send a positive message.

Currently, only around 3 per cent of the population switch their bank accounts. That is why I am encouraging local residents to support all the businesses in Llantwit Major – and reward their loyalty with our patronage.

This is my final column before Christmas; The GEM has yet again done a superb job in delivering the news that matters to us all in 2015.

I would like to take the opportunity to wish everyone, including friends and family visiting the Vale over the festive period, a very happy Christmas and New Year.

MP's PRAISE FOR THE POSTIES

ALUN CAIRNS visited Royal Mail's Llandow delivery office this week to pass on Christmas wishes and encouragement to postmen and women at their busiest time of the year.

The Vale MP was shown around the office by manager, Kevin Beames, and was introduced to postmen and women who are working hard, sorting and delivering mail in the Vale in the run-up to Christmas.

"There is a huge amount of effort and dedication that goes into delivering a first class Christmas at Royal Mail's busiest time of year. It was great to meet the team in Llandow," Mr Cairns said.

"Our postal workers do such an important job at this time of year and I would like to thank them for their efforts and wish them all the best over the busy festive period."

The last recommended posting dates for Christmas are: Second Class – December 19; First Class – December 21; Special Delivery – December 23.



Alun Cairns with Llandow delivery office staff.

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Cardiff Airport's interim boss is now confirmed as new managing director

CARDIFF Airport has announced the appointment of Debra Barber as managing director and chief operating officer, responsible for directing and controlling operations and optimising a sustainable Airport for Wales.

In this role, Ms Barber will lead the airport team in managing the business and will oversee the development and delivery of the airport's business plan.

Ms Barber has been in post as interim managing director since September 2014 having joined



Debra Barber pictured outside the terminal building.

Cardiff Airport as operations director in May 2012, following a successful career with the Royal Air Force.

Having joined the military in 1984, she spent the first 10 years working in and around RAF airfields as an air traffic controller before retiring as Group Captain and Air Traffic

Management Force Commander, responsible for all RAF air traffic units in the UK and around the world after 28 years' service.

During her time as interim managing director, the airport has seen a significant growth in passenger numbers, a new airline base, new services and successful delivery of major events, plus further improvements to the terminal and airfield operations.

Commenting on her appointment, Debra Barber said: "I am extremely pleased to continue leading the airport during this exciting stage. We have achieved a great amount already but recognise there is still much work to be done to ensure we have an airport we can all be proud of."

ROTARY AND INNER WHEEL BRING SOME FESTIVE CHEER



Rotarians, Inner Wheel members and friends with Orchard House residents.

THE Rotary and Inner Wheel Clubs of Barry visited Orchard House residential home on Tuesday, December 8, to give the residents some festive cheer and Rotary Club president Paul Halstead introduced everyone to carols, readings, and poems.

Hark the Herald Angels Sing and other carols were interspersed with scripture readings by Inner Wheel president Tina Evans and Rotary president Paul Halstead. Inner Wheel members Carys Howe and Beth Longley also made interesting contributions. Residents were particularly appreciative

of teenagers Katie Brownjohn and her friend Miriam, who played their flutes.

A special guest helper was nine-year-old Bailey Sloan, who offered chocolates to the residents during the evening's entertainment! At the end of the evening Rotary president Paul thanked all attending and

particularly Rotarian the Glenbrook on Meirion Evans for Thursdays (6.30pm). For further information, organising the event and playing the piano. He then wished everyone a Happy Christmas!

The Rotary Club of Barry meets weekly in www.rribi.org. JO

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cowbridge Country Market
THE market wishes all its friends and supporters a happy Christmas.

We are open on Friday and Tuesday, December 18 and 22 for you to stock up on last minute delights. A full range of produce and craft items will be available on both days in the Lesser Hall, 9.30am - 11.30am. Empty jam jars are welcome, ahead of our marmalade making in January.

Boxing Day swim
WHITMORE Bay Voluntary Lifeguards' annual Boxing Day swim meets at the Voluntary Lifeguard Station, Western Shelter, Barry Island, entering the water at 10am.

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'Don't feel alone at Christmas'

AS Samaritans
Cymru gears up for the festive season, the charity is reminding people that no-one needs to feel alone this Christmas.

"If you are struggling to cope with life, the pressure to have a good time can magnify your challenges and increase your sense of isolation, even with friends and family around you," says executive director for Wales, Sarah Stone.

"This is why Samaritans' volunteers in Wales will be there around the clock for anyone who feels they need to talk, in confidence, about whatever's getting to them - on Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day, and every other day of the year."

"Someone contacts Samaritans every six seconds. Problems don't go away just because it's Christmas, so if you're finding it hard to look forward to the festive season, we're here for you."

"If it's too difficult to open up to friends or family, or you feel you have no-one who will listen, talk to us. We'll keep whatever you say safe, we won't judge and we'll help you find a way through."

Gemma is a Samaritans' volunteer in Bridgend who has answered hundreds of calls for help from people finding Christmas and New Year an ordeal:

"It may be your first Christmas without your children because of a separation. Or you may be bereaved, or struggling with redundancy, debt, your health, relationships or family issues."

"It's OK to not be having a good time, and you don't have to put on a brave face for us. You can talk to us, by phone, email, or face-to-face in our branch."

"However difficult your thoughts and feelings are, knowing that we care and that we will listen can make all the difference," Gemma added.

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THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D909.

● **£2,000:** 144745.
● The rollover, which now stands at **£3,000** was not won this week.
● **£10:** 198635, 822865, 233885, 474955, 644562, 796200, 105640, 205787, 109540, 622896, 180755, 617948, 687683, 850689, 629840, 619605, 905448, 962147, 1166.

● **£5:** 193568, 799756, 169131, 751842, 386099, 959938, 261435.

410368, 616669, 179773, 422201, 278558, 894631, 211627, 466723, 895564, 545651, 311066, 784782, 696343, 186849, 536022, 113730, 884631, 796366, 893418, 523652, 787872, 477008, 244327, 350258, 362119, 838636, 467925, 481713, 444953, 114414, 305317, 562463, 429726, 778191, 761425, 516436, 267945, 404086, 437152, 950466, 327057, 638915, 110877, 516494, 702069, 122395, 445616, 578328, 328, 503, 284, 1651.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 029 2053 2300.

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STRICTLY Come Dancing with Steve and Lynne – undefeated Welsh Open Latin American champions and Wales' representatives in Belgium, New Zealand, Italy and Spain – and have a ball!

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Alternatively, just come along on the night, 10 minutes before the class starts to register.

Check the advertisement on this page for our new classes starting in January.

So it's up to you – drag yourself away from the telly – get some exercise, keep fit and join in with us all.

See you in January!

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MOYA'S PUPILS EXCEL IN BALLET EXAMINATIONS

THE Moya Vahey School of Russian classical ballet, based in BIJOU, Cowbridge, recently had ballet examinations with pupils from Penarth, Porthcawl, Pencoed, Llantwit Major and the Vale participating.

The results were excellent with 12 dancers achieving Honours and eight Honours with Distinction.

Four 16-year-olds, Alice Teague, Rachel Bent, Isaac St John Griffiths and Llewelyn Brown, all had over 90 marks for the advanced exam.

The examiner, Andrew Stevens from Ljubljana, Slovenia was very impressed with the high

standard of work and through to the final of the invited Llewelyn to Dance World Cup 2016, dance the Prince in his production of Cinderella.

Alice Teague, Rachel Bent and Llewelyn Brown (pictured) are good luck," said Moya.



FAMILIES in Llantrisant recently enjoyed a magical breakfast where they were joined by popular characters Elsa, Anna and Olaf at Leekes (above).

Festivities began as the characters broke the ice, performing songs inspired from the well-known film and after being invited to dress up as their favourite character, a lucky recipient received a prize for the best costume.

Peter Mundell, store manager at Leekes Llantrisant said: "It's the first time that we've hosted an event of this kind and we're delighted that so many families turned up to enjoy breakfast with Elsa, Anna and Olaf."

"The children really enjoyed the interaction with the characters, along with the singing and various competitions."

"It also provided the perfect opportunity for their parents to finish those last minute Christmas preparations with our three for two mix and match on a superb selection of gifts as well as our great range of decorations and kitchen accessories."

Penny Farthing's £100,000 facelift

RIGHT: Tracy Griffiths, manager at the Penny Farthing.

FORMERLY Farthings, the newly re-branded Penny Farthing cafe and wine bar, which was bought by family-run hospitality group Town & Country 18 months ago, has been given a £100,000 facelift.

It has invested in a new wine bar, cake fridge, flooring, chairs and fixtures and fittings to update its look as it expands its offering.

Previously only open in the daytime, to coincide with its new extensive wine list, which includes over 50 wines from all over the world, Penny Farthing has extended its opening hours and is now open Thursday to Saturday until 11pm.

Alongside a new daytime menu, a special menu of small and sharing plates has been created for the evening.

The 80-cover cafe and wine bar has taken on an additional five staff to support its growth plans and has put together a calendar of events in the lead up to Christmas, which will be developed further in 2016.



Christmas services

BARRY'S Methodist church services will take place as follows this Christmas: Cadoston Christingle, December 18 at 3.15pm. On December 20, at 6pm carols.

Crossway (Court Road/Crossways Street) on December 20 at 3.30pm, a service of readings, carols and messy church Christingle; on Christmas Day at 10am.

St David's Winston Road/Colcot Road December 20 at 6pm a service of lessons and carols by candlelight; on Christmas Eve, service with Holy Communion at 11pm, and on Christmas Day at 9.45am. The Gathering Place, St Athan on December 20 at 10.30am a Christingle; Christmas Day service at 10am.

Barry United Church (The Waterfront) December 20 at 10.30am and 6pm, carol services; also at BUC a Christingle at 4pm on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day at 10am.

For more details, contact the Vale of Glamorgan Methodist circuit on 01446 406262.

BOOK REVIEWS

Book for railway buffs
RAILWAY buffs will enjoy Geoff and Ian Body's The Galloping Sausage and Other Train Curiosities (Published by The History Press at £14.99).

The formative years of Britain's railway network produced a host of ideas, activities and characters, quite a few which now seem not only highly unusual, but sometimes little short of ridiculous.

Weird schemes and designs, extravagant behaviour, reckless competition and larger than life characters all featured in the genuine struggle of the railway system to evolve.

This book, by ex-railwaymen Geoff and Ian Body, captures more than 150 entertaining snippets, stories, and strange and unusual facts from an ample supply of railway curiosities.

Geoff Body worked in the railway industry from 1945 to 1976 and has been writing on the subject of railways ever since.

His other titles include Railway Oddities and Signal Box Coming Up, Sir!

Ian Body is Geoff's son and is also an ex-railwayman. He joined forces with his father to produce The Galloping Sausage.

Children's book debut
ANGELA FISH is a writer who specialises in intergenerational communication, women's writing and Welsh writing in English.

She gained her M.Phil in literature at the

University of Glamorgan in 1995, and was a principal lecturer there until 2000.

Her publications include non-fiction, fiction, short stories and poetry, often with Welsh and feminist themes.

Ben and the Spider Gate (published in hardback by Book Guild Publishing at £12.99) is her first book for children.

The 'hero' Ben loves chatting to his wise Gran, playing computer games with his best friend Jess, and helping his dad to train his clever dog, Scoot.

Best of all, though, he likes playing ball in his garden with Scoot and it is the garden and local woods where this enchanting story unfolds.

Illustrated with some beautiful black and white drawings, it is the kind of book you will enjoy reading to your young children or grandchildren.

BRIAN LEE

CHRISTMAS FETE

TY DEWI SANT Residential Home in Myrtle Close, Penarth, CF64 3NQ is holding a Christmas fete this Saturday, December 19, at 2pm.

Stalls include bric-a-brac, books, handmade gifts, cakes and a raffle.

Trip By The Sea with Jolie-Pitt and Pitt is stylish but dull...

NEITHER Brad Pitt nor Angelina Jolie were scraping around in their careers when they got together in 2005 after meeting on the set of action comedy *Mr and Mrs Smith*.

Since then their individual stock has risen considerably, the former hitting a run of critical and box office successes (including an Oscar nomination for *Moneyball*), while the latter has balanced her acting career with a move behind the camera which yielded the lauded *Unbroken*.

Now the couple have teamed up, with Jolie not only behind the camera, but also writing the script, in *By The Sea*. Set in France during the mid-1970s, Vanessa (Jolie), a former dancer, and her husband Roland (Pitt), an American writer, travel the country together.

They seem to be growing apart, but when they reach a quiet, seaside town they find themselves reconnecting as they meet the locals...

The inherent thrill of seeing a real-life couple on the screen doesn't always bring the fireworks you would hope for (just look at Nicole Kidman and Tom Cruise in *Eyes Wide Shut*

for example); so while placing the coupling of Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie-Pitt together holds some voyeuristic thrill (is this what they're like when they argue?), it's pretty much the only thrill in a caustic yet all too cumbersome story of a marriage unravelling.

Neither Roland nor Vanessa are particularly easy to like characters – he is a writer who's struggling to overcome writer's block and a penchant for alcohol, while she is seemingly constantly walking under a dark cloud, popping pills and passing the time away.

The trip they embark upon is more professional than personal – Roland is trying to have his creativity sparked by the area – but as he struggles to put pen to paper, the troubles in their marriage bubble to the surface even more, their lack of communication and relationship painfully evident.

It isn't helped that the pair find themselves in the shadow of a newly-married couple in the room next door, their blooming love and passion a stark counterpoint to Roland and Vanessa's icy relationship.

While the performances are all more than competent, the story meanders



by **GARETH JAMIESON**

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lazily; it doesn't ever feel like it's kicking up a gear, even as the two couples become friendly and the reasons for the apathy between Roland and Vanessa slowly come into view, keeping you intrigued until the very end, where everything comes to a head in an emotional explosion.

Both Pitt and Jolie-Pitt are unsurprisingly strong, enlivening the stuttering material while Melanie Laurent and Melvil Poupaud as the seemingly picture-perfect counterpoint to them also deliver good performances.

As a director, Jolie-Pitt shows yet more evidence that she has some serious burgeoning talent behind the camera, giving the film a classy and elegant tone, riffing

on the visual sophistication of European cinema and making the most of the gorgeous, scenic location, the languid direction fitting nicely.

Yet the screenplay is the disappointing element, Pitt-Jolie's script indulging in the characters and their journey a little too much without ever really offering any great substance. There is the intriguing element of the pair snooping on their next door neighbours through a spy-hole but it's all too pedestrian and one-note, and ultimately slightly predictable.

You never feel wholly engaged by either story or characters, and while *By The Sea* is gorgeous to look at (the leads alone ensuring that, let alone the beautiful location), it's an altogether dull affair.

VERDICT – A cumbersome exercise in style, *By The Sea* feels a little too self-indulgent and slow-paced to ever truly capture your attention. The performances are sound, the direction is stylish but lazily paced, but the story feels overly predictable and moves in familiar ways. It looks great, but there's little more to it than that. Poor.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *A Good Year* (2006), *Rabbit Hole* (2010).

Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Branch Manager Phil Powell feels that it's all about service. "Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although

that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done. We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole."

Cloudy2Clear service the Vale, Bridgend, BCT and Portbotwyl areas and Phil is finding that his

approach is a major factor in his success. "The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've

done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated."

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'A kind and gentle man who showed compassion for others'

A CLOSE friend of the family penned this tribute to Tony Leadbitter of Ystradowen, whose death was reported in The GEM last week.

I first met Tony in 1990 some four years after he had retired and at a time when he was playing a very active role in the family's varied interests.

Tony was born in 1927 in Islington, London, the son of Walter and Margaret Leadbitter. Life was hard at that time, his father, a pilot with the Royal Flying Corps, died when he was just three years old leaving his mother to bring Tony up alone.

At the age of 12, Tony became a Second World War evacuee, something he very rarely talked about but when he did, it was clear how hard it was for parents who were forced to put their children on a train with little more than a few scant belongings, a gas mask and a label around their necks.

Tony was one of the lucky ones and when his mother moved out of London to High Wycombe, he was able to return home. Childhood in war time was difficult but it was apparent at this age that his future career in electronics was going to become a lifetime passion.

Various experiments with audio technology drove his mother to despair on many occasions and culminated in a rather large explosion in the garden shed.

Tony took up a scholarship to High Wycombe Grammar School, which led on to further education at High Wycombe College of Technology and Hatfield Polytechnic. In 1945, he joined the Post Office, where he held a variety of positions including working on both automatic and manual telephone exchange systems, the TV licence detector vans and Home Office communication issues at both Fylindale and Bletchley Park.

Tony was the first to admit that the varied roles he had within the Post Office provided the grounding for his electronics career.

In 1957, Tony joined Belling and Lee Ltd, where

he rose up the ranks to the post of Divisional Manager. Tony often talked about his involvement in the development of 'screen rooms' for hospitals, security and computer purposes, but was equally proud of his involvement in the construction of the St Hilary communication mast, as well as his achievements in developing aerial technology.

In 1973, a career move resulted in a move to Wales as Managing Director of Wolsey, a Division of AB Electronics. Many of you may recall having a 'Colour King' aerial - this was developed by Tony while he was with AB Electronics.

Tony was an Associate Member of the Institute of Electronic and Radio Engineers, served as President of the Society of Cable Television Engineers from 1969-1971 and was made an Honorary Fellow of the Confederation of Aerial Industries.

His job and position within the industry took him on numerous trade missions around the world, something he really enjoyed and resulted in some amusing tales, including the incident where everybody in his carriage on the train back from Paris moved to a different carriage because of a very pungent smell. This was in fact a rather ripe Brie cheese which in the heat of the train became somewhat riper!

The love of electronics extended annually to the purchase of the latest kitchen gadget for wife Pat as a Christmas present - something that did not always go down well as Tony never used the gadget and Pat, having technophobia, regarded such things as a hindrance rather than a help.

Aside from electronics, Tony's great passion was photography, and he very rarely went anywhere without his cameras. He was a very active member and past chairman of the Vale Camera Club and was an inspiration to many, always encouraging others including his family to take pictures.

There was nothing he liked more than to sit and look at photos and many a visitor to the house would be shown his portfolio of pictures.

Tony was also given the title of official family

videographer and loved filming both Pat and Fiona with the ponies at many of the shows.

Tony undertook a number of judging appointments and got to meet many like minded enthusiasts at photo clubs around Wales. Photography provided a great interest during Tony's retirement leading to highly-regarded work for The GEM newspaper, and most days would see him out and about with his camera, capturing events around the Vale.

Pat and Tony had this year celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary and the celebrations spent with the family were something that Tony enjoyed enormously.

Family played a very important part in Tony's life and not only was he very supportive of the family's varied interests, he was also immensely proud of what had been achieved.

He took great pleasure in seeing the success of Pat and Fiona's Thornberry Pony Stud and the enjoyment that came with it: the friends from around the world, the shows and judging appointments undertaken by Fiona, and the sheer excitement of new goals and plans for the future.

He was equally supportive of son Simon and his various enterprises, and was always there on taxi duty when required, be it for setting up Simon's mobile disco, delivering bouncy castles to children's parties or accompanying Simon on numerous trips to France to help with the running of his holiday cottages.

Being a very practical person, he was always on hand to help with mechanical issues and loved the bicycle shop and was thrilled when Simon restored a BSA Scout car.

Tony was a kind and gentle man who showed great compassion for others. Many of you may not know that Tony had struggled for some time with failing eyesight and although he never complained, for those close to him it was obvious how distressing it was that his beloved cameras sat unused as his reduced vision made it impossible to continue his lifelong hobby.

Sisters have a haircut for children's charity



The locks of hair will be sent to The Little Princess Trust.

THREE sisters from Llandow have had their hair shorn for charity - and donated their locks to the Little Princess Trust which makes wigs for children who have lost their hair following treatment for cancer and other illnesses.

On Wednesday, December 9, staff at The Hair Business in Cowbridge volunteered to cut the hair of Jasmine Bacon-Peniche and her sisters Naomi and Nicole. A minimum of 7" of hair is needed to make the wigs, and the girls have also been raising funds for the charity through a

fundraising webpage.

The donations and messages of support have been extremely generous and, while the girls had hoped to raise £150 for the charity, they in fact managed to raise over £400 in a week!

The fundraising webpage will remain

open until January 9, anyone wishing to donate can visit mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/garybacon1.

Jasmine, Naomi and Nicole thank Leigharne, James and Beth at The Hair Business and everyone who has kindly donated to this effort.

These young scribes 'nab' an exclusive!



ON December 9 and 10, the foundation phase children (nursery, reception, year-1 and year-2) and staff at All Saints Primary, Barry, performed a spectacular Nativity performance entitled 'The Bethlehem Star' to huge crowds!

Before the start of each performance, our school eCadets spoke to the audience to remind them about eSafety and their responsibility when taking and sharing photos of the performance on-line.

The play, directed by Miss Kirsty Mackintosh, starts with the staff of 'The Star' newspaper desperately looking for a 'scoop'. The Editor encourages his reporters to get out there and find a story worth telling... not just a donkey or some figs or some slippery oil thieves!

The play followed these reporters as they at first miss the biggest

scoop, as they simply think that it is just another ordinary baby being born...

Babies are born all the time, nothing special about Mary's - if only they knew!

The play moved through various plot twists with all the children performing songs and excellent one-liners that had the crowds in hoots of laughter.

The performances concludes with Mary and Joseph find a special place for the birth of their baby and the reporters get the greatest story of all time!

The play was enjoyed by everyone who attended and the 'Choir of Angels' performed a show-stopping song that brought the house down.

Well done to everyone involved and a huge thank you to all our families for always supporting our school.

Nadolg Llawnen.

AW

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St Donat's Chorale signs off in the capital



ST DONAT'S CHORALE (pictured, left, during rehearsals), have been invited to give their final concert of the year at St Edward's Church in Roath, Cardiff, on Saturday (December 19) at 11am.

They will be performing at the church Christmas fayre with a mixture of songs and carols, both new and old, which everyone will be able to sing along with.

Rehearsals will recommence on January 4, at Atlantic College in St Donat's at 7.30pm, when anybody who enjoys singing will be made very welcome; no auditions necessary.

The choir will be rehearsing for their next performance on March 19 when, accompanied by professional soloists and orchestra, they will be singing *The St John's Passion* at All Saints Church, Barry.

'PAY FOR A DAY OF HOSPICE CARE'

INDIVIDUALS and businesses are being encouraged to help support local people living with a terminal illness by paying for 24 hours of hospice care on a day of their choice.

The Pay for a Day fundraising initiative allows donors to pay for the £6,660 cost of running the Marie Curie Cardiff and the Vale hospice in Penarth for a

single day.

In exchange, individuals or companies can pay a visit to the hospice to see how their donation is used to support local people, and their families, while a certificate of support bearing the donor's name will also be on display in the hospice reception area.

Individuals and companies supporting the Pay for a Day initiative will also see

their names and stories featured on the charity's website and social media channels.

The Marie Curie Cardiff and the Vale hospice cares for more than 1,200 people, and their families and loved ones, every year. Among those to have witnessed the expert care and support offered at the Marie Curie Cardiff and the Vale hospice is Richard Gladwin, whose mother Joan Patricia

Gladwin was cared for at the hospice in 2005 after being diagnosed with lung cancer.

Richard said: "The care that my mother received at the end of her life at the Marie Curie hospice made a terrible time bearable, not just for my mother, but my whole family."

"From the moment she arrived, things got better for us. The expert palliative care of the doctors brought physical

relief, the compassion and skill of the nursing staff brought both physical and mental comfort, and the work of the volunteers raised our spirits. I owe them a debt that I can never repay."

"As special as my experience was, to me it is not unique – it happens to many, many families and Marie Curie is there for them day in, day out. I support the Marie Curie Cardiff and

the Vale hospice so that others can get the help that my mother did and have a better quality of life for as long as possible. I urge others to do the same by supporting Pay for a Day."

Georgina Burke, Community Fundraiser at the Marie Curie Cardiff and the Vale Hospice, said: "The Marie Curie Hospice, Cardiff and the Vale, is here for people living with any terminal illness, and their families. Some of the people we care for and support stay at the hospice, while others come in for the day to attend our clinics or support sessions."

"We are able to do this thanks to our fantastic supporters, including the individuals and organisations that choose to Pay for a Day. There are lots of ways to get involved: You could make a one-off donation. Get your staff involved in fundraising. Or raise the money through a sponsored cycle, run or other personal challenge."

To find out more about how you can Pay for a Day and support the Marie Curie Cardiff and the Vale hospice, please contact Georgina Burke on 02920 426068 or email Georgina.burke@mariecurie.org.uk.



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Grants are available for business start-ups

THE Inspiring Vale Bursary is a local funding source (Waterloo Foundation) set up to provide bursaries for individuals and groups of young people who live in the Vale and are aged 30, or under intending to start a new business or community enterprise in the Vale of Glamorgan.

Grants of up to £3,000 can be applied for, which must be match-funded by 20 per cent of personal funds.

The purpose of the bursary is to promote conditions which will help young people to implement their ideas, and take them forward to start up within the county.

This can include providing advice and expert support to develop a business idea, providing the necessary equipment or resources to start a business, helping with business location costs.

To apply for the

Bursary:

- Applicants have to be an individual or a group all aged 30 years old or under on application.

- Applicants have to live in the Vale of Glamorgan or have lived here previously for 5 consecutive years.

- Applicants must want to set up their business in the Vale of Glamorgan

- The business venture must be a spare-time or part-time or full-time activity, permanent or temporary.

- The bursary has to be essential in order to start the business.

- There has to be no other source of money available to fund the equipment or services they have applied for.

- The business the applicants intend to establish has to be new and not taking a business over as well as being independent of any other business.

- The business has to be a start-up business pre commercial trading.

- Start-up costs must not exceed £25,000.



The bursary winners.

Assembly praise for local young entrepreneurs

A GROUP of successful young entrepreneurs from the Vale were welcomed to the National Assembly's Pierhead Building in Cardiff Bay last week and congratulated on their success by ministers.

Jane Hutt, Minister for Finance, hosted the event to celebrate the achievements of those supported by this year's Inspiring the Vale bursaries scheme. She was joined by Julie James AM, Deputy Minister for Skills and Technology.

Fern Coslett, 26, from Penarth, has now been able to set up Elm Apparel, a clothing

company that celebrates the fashion culture of the LGBT community.

She said: "They've allowed a young person the opportunity to create a job, to be inspired and to create an innovative business. I'm forever grateful for the opportunity they've given me to create a business that I've dreamed about."

Chloe Francis, 28, from St Brides Major, has put her bursary towards setting up Cobble Kitchen & Deli in Ogmore-by-Sea. She said: "It's wonderful knowing that I am being supported and encouraged to pursue a lifelong dream. It's not just about the financial side of things but knowing others believe in your idea."

Lewis McGregor, 24, from Barry, applied for the bursary to set up his company Skybreaker, providing professional lighting design. He said: "The bursary will allow me to step forward on a path that was otherwise closed off for me."

Funded by the Waterloo Foundation and the Vale of Glamorgan Council, the bursary scheme provides funding of up to £3,000 for young people aged 16-30 who want to start a new business or social enterprise in the Vale of Glamorgan.

Young entrepreneurs in the Vale who would like to know more about the scheme can find information online at www.creativevuralcommunities.co.uk.

Stroll through capital

EIGHT Penarth and District Ramblers joined William for a 12-mile urban walk which would encompass some of the historical features of the capital city of Wales.

They set off across the edge of Central Square in Cardiff, which at present is cordoned off because of building work, and made their way to the Golate, a narrow lane that connects Westgate Street with St Mary Street. Back in medieval times it was probably a dirt track, ditch or streambed and over the years has been called Porth Llongau, Ship's Gate, Frog Lane, Gollygate and Gullygate.

Next they arrived at Cardiff Castle, which served as a Norman fortress before being passed into the de Clare and Despenser families, withstood the challenge of Owain Glyndwr and during the English Civil War was owned by William Herbert, before being passed by marriage into the famous Bute family.

From Canal Park they entered Mount Stuart Square, named after Lord Mountstuart heir to the Bute estate where over 60 listed buildings erected at the end of the 19th century, including the Coal Exchange and Custom House once stood as a memorial to the industrial and commercial growth of Cardiff, when it became the busiest and richest port with the surrounding area becoming known as the infamous Tiger Bay.

From Cardiff Bay, they passed through Hamadryad Park and joined the River Taff, crossing Clarence Road Bridge onto the Taff Embankment and entered Grange Town going past the Hindu Temple to Sophia Gardens and across Blackweir Bridge into Bute Park alongside the swollen River Taff. Leafy built-up areas led them onwards to Cathays Cemetery for a brief stop at the grave of 'Peerless' Jim Driscoll (1880-1925) who rose from a very

humble and poor background to become a legendary featherweight champion, both here and in America.

Lunch was enjoyed in Roath Park, overlooking the lake with its memorial to Captain Scott, who set off from Roath Dock in the Terra Nova on his fateful expedition. Originally, the ship's figurehead was presented to the City of Cardiff to be displayed in the park, but this was moved to the National Museum of Wales so it could be preserved and instead, a lighthouse was erected in 1915 after the lake had been drained, so the foundations could be laid and the clock tower was added in 1918.

The walkers followed the Roath Brook and tramped Victorian terraced streets back to the Civic Centre, home to some beautiful buildings and paused at the stunning Wales National War Memorial designed by J Ninian Comper.

It honours those who lost their lives in the Great War and consists of a circular colonnade which contains bronze figures of a soldier, sailor and an airman each raising a wreath to an elevated central figure of a winged messenger who holds a sword aloft, before making their way back to their start through the city centre.

On December 19, meet at 9am at Cogan for an eight-mile moderate Christmas walk taking in Llansannor; contact Rachel on 01446 410545.

On December 20, meet at 9.30am at Cogan for a seven-mile moderate walk taking in the Mellte and Nedd valleys; contact Robin on 029 2051 4051.

On December 22, meet at 9am at the Barry Waterfront for a mid-week 8.5-mile tramp at Marcross and Monkash; contact Joy on 01446 737131.

Follow the group on www.penarthramblers.wordpress.com Programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2025 5102.

JOY STRANGWARD

If you have an idea for a business but don't know where to start, Creative Rural Communities has a **bursary scheme for young people** that may be able to help.

You can apply for up to **£3,000** to set up your own business*

Test a new business idea, gain experience in running your own business, work alone, with a group or your whole community!

Applicants must:

- Be aged 30 or under on application
- Have an idea for a business or community enterprise and need support to implement it
- Apply individually or as a group
- Live in the Vale of Glamorgan (or have lived here for 5 years previously)
- Want to set up a full, part time or spare time business in the Vale

Find out more about Inspiring the Vale Bursaries by calling **01446 704637**

* you need at least 20% match funding



the waterloofoundation

creative RURAL COMMUNITIES



Find out more about Inspiring the Vale Bursaries by calling **01446 704637** www.creativevuralcommunities.co.uk

* you need at least 20% match funding

Os ydych yn berson ifanc a bod gennych syniad am fusnes ond na wyddoch lle i ddechrau, efallai y gall cynllun bwrsari Cymunedau Gwledig Creadigol eich helpu.

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Mae'n rhaid i ymgeiswyr:

- Fod yn 30 oed neu lai
- Fod â syniad am fusnes neu fenter gymunedol a bod arnynt angen cefnogaeth i'w weithredu
- Ymgeisio'n unigol neu mewn grŵp
- Fyw ym Mro Morgannwg neu fod wedi byw yma am 5 mlynedd cynt
- Fod yn awyddus i sefydlu busnes yn y Fro, llawn amser, rhann amser neu yn eu hamser hamdden

I darganfod mwy gwisgwch heddiw a gwneidwch y

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* rhaid angen o leiaf 20% o arian cyfnewidiol

or by emailing /new drwy e-bostio: creative@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk or visit our web site at /cewch i'n gwefan ar: www.creativevuralcommunities.co.uk

Glamorgan GEM

Season's Greetings

FESTIVE SERVICES

THE Parish of Penarth and Llandough is preparing for a variety of services over the Christmas

period, including the ever-popular crib service, carols by candlelight and a service of lessons and carols.

Lessons and carols at

Holy Nativity Church, Cogan, Sunday, December 20, 4.30pm, followed by mince pies and mulled wine.

Crib service at St Augustine's, December 24, 4pm families and children especially welcome (noise is not a problem!).

Carols by Candlelight at St Augustine's, December 24 at 11pm followed by Midnight Mass at 11.30pm.

Communion service for Christmas at Llandough, - 8pm at St Dochdwy's.

Family Communion on Christmas Day, 10am at Holy Nativity Church, Cogan - children are welcome to bring their toys.

New rector, Rev Mark Jones, says he is looking forward to his first Christmas in Penarth.

More information at: www.parishofpenarthandllandough.co.uk or phone the parish office on 02920 708722.

Christmas is a time to celebrate birth of Jesus ...AND REFLECT ON THE IMPORTANT THINGS OF LIFE

'Universal message of 'peace', and the timeless themes that remain as relevant today as they were in Bethlehem 2,000 years ago'...

IT is at Christmastime that we celebrate the birth of Jesus, with his universal message of 'peace', and timeless themes that remain as relevant today as they were in

Bethlehem 2,000 years ago.

In a turbulent modern world too often beset by hatred and strife, 'Blessed is the peacemaker' and 'goodwill to all men' are simple, humanitarian ideals.

As such, they have met the test of time - and should surely be shared by all men of goodwill, whatever their background or beliefs.

The seasonal break allows us a unique opportunity to spend precious extra time with loved ones and to reflect on the things

that truly matter in life, the treasured values and ties that bind families (and the community as a whole) together.

It is also a time for renewal, and to share and extend wider greetings - as a year that was sadly distorted by graphic headlines recording human disasters and bitter global conflicts, slides away into the history books.

Now 2016 waits its turn in the wings to bring a more positive message of hope for a better year to come.

Finally, *The GEM* would like to take the opportunity to add our voice to the seasonal messages on this page.

We heartily wish all of our readers and advertisers a very happy, peaceful Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Councillor Frederick Johnson

The Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan Council extends Seasons Greetings to all residents of the Vale of Glamorgan.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



Mae'r Cyngorydd Frederick Johnson

Faer Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, yn estyn Cyfarchion yr yl i holl drigolion y Fro.

Nadolig Llawn a Blwyddyn Newydd Dda

The Llantwit Major Conservative Branch
would like to wish local residents
*a very Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year*
Thanks to all who supported the party in 2015
& we look forward to your continuing support in the year ahead.
If you need support on any issue,
please call us on **01446 744126**

Llantwit First Independent Vale Councillors



*Would like to wish everyone
a Merry
Christmas & a
Happy New Year*

*If you're interested in joining our group,
or just supporting our aims, call*

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MERRY CHRISTMAS
to The Party People
from D.J. John
(JB's Disco)
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Llantwit Major Town Council
Councillor
Mrs Patricia Lancaster,
Town Mayor and all
Town Councillors
wish Llantwit Major
residents and visitors
*a Happy Christmas
and a Prosperous 2016*

Andrew RT Davies AM
SECURITY STABILITY OPPORTUNITY
I would like to wish constituents across the
Vale of Glamorgan a very merry Christmas
and a happy New Year!
www.AndrewRTDavies.com
If I can help you in 2016 please do not hesitate
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Andrew.RT.Davies@Assembly.Wales

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The Town Mayor of
Barry, Councillor
Emma Pritchard
and members
of the Town
Council

*send Greetings to the
Townpeople of Barry
together with sincere
wishes for Health, Happiness and
Prosperity for Christmas*

**Maer y Dref y Barri, Y Cyngorydd
Emma Pritchard**

ac Aelodau'r Cyngor Tref y Barri
*Anfon Cyfarchion i bobl y dref y Barri,
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Iechyd, Hapusrwydd a Ffyniant ar
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FESTIVE FUN WITH 'THE INSATIABLE, INFLATABLE CANDYLION'

LOOKING for a Christmas show with a twist this year?

National Theatre Wales has teamed up with Super Furry Animals frontman Gruff Rhys to create *The Insatiable, Inflatable Candy Lion*, a festive event that is pitched somewhere between a theatre show and a live music gig, inspired by Gruff's seminal album *Candy Lion* and performed in Cardiff's SWALEC Stadium.

Aberdare-born Tim Price has written the show, which will feature a mix of new songs and old favourites, all written by Gruff. And there's a cracking cast of actor/musicians, including Gruff himself, Sweet Baboo, Lisa Jen Brown (lead singer of 9Bach), Remy Beasley, Matthew Bulgo, Dyfan Dwyfor, Natasha

Lewis, Dyfrig Morris, Kliph Scurlock and Emma Daman Thomas.

Audiences aged from four to 104 will be invited to meet a host of characters including Caruin, Cheffyl, Meringutan, Sledgehog, Pale Droid and all the inhabitants of Pixel Valley, where there's a whiff of revolution in the air...

This is an opportunity to see some of the best writing, singing and acting talent Wales has to offer in a unique production by the country's English language national theatre company, performed in the heart of the capital.

The Insatiable, Inflatable Candy Lion will be performed at the SWALEC Stadium, Cardiff, from December 16 to January 2.

To book your tickets, call 029 2037 1689, or visit nationaltheatrewales.org.

THE VALE 150 YEARS AGO - TIMES HAVE CHANGED

by Brian Keith

THE 1860s in the Vale was a world away from our festive season nowadays - but some things were the same.

With all the wind and rain (like this autumn) - the weather was something of a Godsend years ago - because energy was provided by the elements. Bro Morgannwg was well served by windmills.

Being near to the sea meant that grains could be ground and wool could be woven on the doorstep. Wool clothed local folk and the grains provided bread for us and fodder for livestock - and yes - roughly ground malted barley was the key ingredient in the production of ale/beer (and whisky).

Diverting watercourses went back hundreds, if not thousands, of years. Practically every parish in the Vale had a mill. Being on a fairly flat plateau of Glamorgan and with predominantly south-westerly winds led to a proliferation of windmills - especially in those communities where the water supply was changeable.

Many mills were still very much in 'action' 150 years ago. Windmills were almost abundant around our area (only Ynys Mon/Anglesey in Wales was similar, because the island was pretty flat).

From east to west - Sully had two windmills (the foundations of one is in Cog Road - the other still stands at Hayes Farm though alas - like all Vale windmills - without sails). St y Nyll tower still stands (agonisingly just outside the National Folk Museum of Wales, St Fagan's) as does that at Llantalris.

There were three in Llantwit Major (two can still be found); Marcross had one, as did Wick (two). Another two can be found at Candelston and Nottage. These were built of stone, but some were constructed of wood. Vanished mills are still evidenced by farms names such as Windmill Farm (Boverton and City), field names such as Cae'r felin/Millfield or road names such as Windmill Lane.

However, the advent of the Industrial Revolution put paid to our mills by the 1930s. From the 1860s onwards, basic products came by rail. No longer would the woollen mills in Llanbleddian and Leckwith produce cloth for the locals. Nor the mills with flour.

But the train also brought beer... Many public houses in the Bro traditionally brewed their own 'home brew'. David

Jones of Wallington, born in Llanbleddian, recalls his native village in the 1860s - when the village boasted two inns: "The General Picton and the King's Head thus - Our host John o' the Picton emulates his neighbour Shon y Gwaith as to who shall have the best tap and the competition for that honour causes each of them to add an extra bushel of malt in his brewing, to gratify the village toppers."

"The thing is probably finished up with a little fighting, at least it is a portion of the standing annual gossip of the village to enquire after the event, 'Has there been any fighting?'"

"The General Picton is by far the best house of the two. Close of the Church, it derives all the benefit that bell-ringing, marriages and burials can bring it as well as being the place of meeting of all parish vestries."

"But Shon y Gwaith is the oldest and down in the village must be considered the village ale-house. Shon y Gwaith name is quite a household word at Llanbleddian and popular consent has conferred his name upon the little "public" instead of the name it bears on the sign."

"If you wanted the house you might ask 20 people in the village for its whereabouts, not one of whom could at a first thought tell you anything of the King's Head, but ask for 'John the Weavers' and the youngest child that plays at the roadside will tell you Johnny is a village character."

Meanwhile, Cowbridge could claim to have over 20 inns and pubs with some three breweries to supply them. With so many drinking houses on offer, the locals had something of a reputation - as a ditty from Iolo Morganwg puts it: "For Cowbridge hath no sober man, Or none of milk sop thinkers, And no philosophical fools, but great and glorious drinkers."

Aberthun had two breweries - the Old and New; Llantwit Major had the Eagle Brewery; the King's Head and the White Lion frothed up ale for the then or so pubs that used to exist there and nearby Wick had two breweries.

The Penarth Brewery (Lovett's of poem adverts fame) opened in 1856 to quench the thirst of the navvies building the dock. Twenty years later (for a similar reason) Barry had a brewery too. Stiles Ales - hence Bridgend Rugby Club's 'Brewery Field' - supplied taverns widely while

Pontyclun's Crown Brewery' was later to become the United Clubs' Brewery.

Even Llantriddday had its own hostelry - 'The Prince' and near the church is the 'Brewer's Well'. Newton Nottage (another Crown Brewery) served customers in nearby Porthcawl.

With the big town breweries like Brain's, Hancock's and Ely emerging in Cardiff, these small enterprises quickly became a memory. One of the last to go was the Cowbridge Brewery. At its peak, the firm produced 100 barrels a week. By the 1950s the output was down to a mere 20 barrels. The last brew was made on May 18, 1955, under supervision of head brewer Gwyn Thomas, who had held the post for 38 years - the Cowbridge Brewery had sold out to Bass & Co.

There is a rather sad tale about one of the local dray horses of years ago recalled by locals: "At this time Dillwyn Morgan of the Bridge Brewery, Cowbridge, owned a fine trotting pony called Daisy, whose coat gleamed like satin and whose speed was a byword in the borough. She was a dray horse who delivered barrels of ale from the brewery to every corner of the Vale."

"Mr Morgan was very proud of Daisy and boasted that his pony could outrace any horse in the locality. He was challenged by a Llyswnery farmer who owned a fast hunter. A private race was arranged at Penlllyn, wagers were laid and an enthusiastic crowd of supporters turned up at the racecourse to cheer Daisy on. After a thrilling race she flew past the tapes ahead of her rival."

"Such a voltage of triumph surges through the jockey's body that he hadn't noticed that Daisy had begun to tremble. Within second she collapsed on the racecourse and died. The remorse of her owner was so profound that he ordered an inscribed tombstone to be placed over her in the brewery yard - a lasting testimony to her gallant 28 years."

However, after years of the demise of our local ales - a revival is taking place with the establishment of real ale microbreweries (even SA Brain & Co have started their own 'Craft Brewery' in Crawshaw Street). Once again we can quaff local ale from the Vale - and maybe the local tradition of the Mari Lwyd will again trot from door to door.

Please drink responsibly. Nadolig Llawn ac wrth gwrs Ieched Da! Happy Christmas and good health!

AM calls for schools to have defibrillators

WELSH Conservative regional AM, Dr Altaf Hussain, has backed calls for all schools to have defibrillators, following the collapse of a 15-year-old boy in Colwyn Bay from a previously undiagnosed heart

defect. Josh Wheelhouse fell ill at Eirias High School in Colwyn Bay, Conwy county, and staff saved him by giving mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and heart massage. The school has since bought a defibrillator.

The South Wales West AM, a former NHS

consultant, said: "Emergencies of this nature can happen suddenly and can happen to anyone without warning. It is of particular concern in our schools, as young people in particular can have heart defects that go undetected until there is a critical emergency."

"The fact that staff from the school were able to provide mouth-to-mouth and CPR on the scene just illustrates the importance of first aid training - this no doubt saved the boy's life."

"Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) are easy to use and could be the best purchase a school could make. The chance of survival after the heart stops falls by around 10 per cent for every minute that passes without defibrillation, and it can take the emergency services several minutes to arrive."

"Access on site to a defibrillator really could make the difference between life and death, and I totally support Josh Wheelhouse's mother in calling for all schools to have one."

School plans new numeracy lessons

FOLLOWING a successful application to the Arts Council of Wales, Sully Primary has become a lead creative school, enabling it to explore ways of increasing numeracy through creative arts.

Musician Andy Everton will help create a bespoke project for pupils in year-four. He will also act as a liaison for the school, arranging

for other members of the creative community to share their expertise with the learners.

The school's lead creative schools coordinator, Laura Sheldon, explained: "Being part of this scheme will help us to build the children's numeracy skills in engaging and meaningful ways, and we expect it to have a long-term impact."

"While we can't give too many details about the project at this stage, we're hoping it will involve music and science and that there'll be a big outcome!"

'Wales needs injection of new businesses'

CAN we please have a moratorium on photo-ops? Every elected official will claim they delivered to Cowbridge this vital Post Office.

Can The GEM also recognise with five months remaining, politicians will do and say anything except the real work to fix our broken economy?

Wales' GVA is 71.4 per cent of the rest of the UK, more than half the population earns less than a living wage and our education system has children's stomachs tied in knots preparing for

GCSE/A-Level exams. The Assembly election boils down to whether our children can afford to remain in Wales, or will leave to find good jobs. Instead of death by 1,000 cuts, let's build the top line of Wales, PLC by attracting new businesses.

Every elected official needs to be asked what, specifically, they will do and held to account on why after 16 years of Labour control and nearly six with Westminster's Tories, this has not been done? No more finger pointing, do something! **Denis Campbell, Ogmere, Liberal Democrat for The Vale.**

Don't forget the lonely

IN about 10 days time, it will be Christmas Day - a time for family gathering and family fun - but let's not forget the old person down the road, who has not had a visit from anyone for many months.

Christmas is a time for family, but also a time for thinking of others less fortunate than ourselves. **David S Ball, Swansea.**

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and
New Year*
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YOUR GUIDE TO GOOD HEALTH OVER FESTIVE PERIOD

THE first item on this month's agenda is a reminder to get your flu vaccine, if you are one of the people in the at risk group.

This is available free of charge to those people, and it includes the over 65s, young children, pregnant ladies, children or adults with an underlying medical condition, like asthma or heart disease, and people who are likely to come in contact with the virus if they are working in healthcare or are indeed a carer for a vulnerable person.

GP practices are still making appointments for people, so get in touch. Some pharmacies are also

now providing flu vaccines.

You can help stop the spread of flu by washing your hands regularly, and sneezing or coughing into a tissue and disposing of it straight away.

Useful information on all aspects of the flu can be found on www.nhs.uk.

As a follow on from November, this month it is Decembeard, where men are encouraged to grow a beard and fund raise to support the bowel cancer charities Beating Bowel Cancer and Bowel Cancer UK.

Every 15 minutes, someone is diagnosed with bowel cancer and it is the second biggest cancer killer. The mission is to get 5,000 men to raise £500,000 to help fund a range

of vital services that help people with this condition.

It is fantastic that so many people are doing something positive to help. You can see the current leader board on their website

www.decembeard.org. It is not too late to register and get that stubble growing! There are some great pictures on the website, including some good ideas for a festive beard.

Ask at your pharmacy or GP practice if you have any concerns about any changes in bowel habits.

The other burning issue in December is always alcohol awareness: men should ideally not drink more than 3-4 units a day and women 2-3 units a day, and there should be a minimum of two alcohol

free days a week.

The over-45s are three times more likely to drink every day and 200,000 people go to work every day with a hangover: 10 million people in the UK drink a little too much, despite alcohol being the second biggest risk factor for cancer after smoking.

Advice is always available from your pharmacy about safe alcohol limits and help and support on how to cut intake. Alcohol concern is setting a challenge to adults in Wales to give up alcohol for 31 days in January.

You can sign up at www.dryjanuary.org.uk and encourage work colleagues and friends to join you.

I would also like to remind

everyone to drop in a copy of your medication discharge sheet to your pharmacy every time you leave hospital, so that we can double check you get the right medicines. We can photocopy it if you only have one copy that you need to drop to your GP.

And, finally, a reminder to order any repeat medications that you need to see you through Christmas and the New Year now. If you do need to find a pharmacy over the bank holiday, a list of those providing the emergency cover is listed on the your health board's website and many pharmacies post the list on their door.

Have a happy, healthy Christmas and New Year.



KATE THOMAS
Pharmacy
Proprietor at
Sylvia
Williams
Chemist,
Cowbridge

Pupils at work on new film



Ms Neilson, Zak, Kieron, Tyler, Dr Coleman, Edward, Luke, Caleb, Sion and Holly Morgan (Communities First).

A GROUP of year-7 students from Barry Comprehensive School are working with Communities First and The Big Learning Company to make a short film about transition.

The students were fortunate to

be able to interview Dr John Coleman OBE, a lecturer at Oxford University who has written many books about teenagers.

The boys were excited to travel to the Watershed, a digital creativity centre in Bristol, to meet Dr Coleman and had many

questions to ask him.

The boys were excellent ambassadors for the school and would like to thank Dr Coleman for his help and encouragement and for answering all their questions.

Look out for the completed film in the New Year. AC

Young speakers excel in Young Farmers' competition

THE Glamorgan Young Farmers' Club's public speaking day on Sunday, December 6 saw members between the age of 10 and 26 take part in a range of competitions at Pendoylan Church in Wales Primary School.

The under-14 reading competition kick-started the day with teams of three reading passages from the book *Wonder*, written by R J Palacio, which was chosen by the judge for the event. Although competitors can familiarise themselves with the story, the actual passages remain unknown until 20 minutes before going on stage. Despite this being the first taste of public speaking for many of the junior members, a high standard was demonstrated throughout. Winners this year were an all-girl team from

Bridgend YFC.

Meanwhile, junior public speaking had ten entries of teams made up of three members aged 16 or under taking the role of chairman, guest speaker and vote of thanks. A team from Wick YFC scooped first place while Maendy YFC member, Oliver Popham (14), won best overall speaker of the day.

Intermediate braintrust was the competition of the day for the under 21 age group. Consisting of a three-person panel plus a chairman, each panel debated three questions on current affairs but it was Bridgend YFC that impressed the judge with their topical discussion earning them the top spot of first place.

Finally, the senior member competition aims to find the most well-rounded and experienced member in the county between the age of 21 and 26. Gower YFC

Chairman, Laura Howells, was awarded first place closely followed by Maendy members Tom Rees and Kate Thomas, who received second and third places respectively.

Glamorgan YFC competitions chairman, Annie Evans, congratulated members for their performances and contribution: "Competition days like this one would not be possible without the volunteers who give up their time to train, judge and steward the teams, and for that I would like to extend my appreciation and gratitude for their commitment."

Young Farmers Club welcomes young people aged between 10 and 26 to join the diverse organisation (you don't have to be a farmer). To find out more, contact county organiser, Gwyneth Thomas, at Glamorgan@yfc-wales.org.uk or telephone 07779 331839.

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Mild weather means bees are still buzzing

WE are well into the final month of the year and the bees are still very active.

There have been wet and windy days when bees have not been out, but it has been mainly the rain that has confined them, not the wind. The varied strength of the wind has had some effect but some of the bees have persisted anyway.

Pollen can be observed on returning foragers. In the garden, a quince bush has started to produce flowers, strawberries are in flower and some strawberries are in existence. The lavender is still showing blooms, as are the fuchsias.

Weather reporters are remarking on the unusually mild conditions and the bee activity just confirms this. The winds from the south and south west are responsible for the temperatures we are experiencing, and as long as they remain around 11 Centigrade and above, the bees will exit the hive on foraging expeditions. (Honeybees do not hibernate.)

I have even observed wasps flying around the hives, when in essence they should have been long gone.

The survival of a honeybee colony throughout the winter months is dependent on

News from Fonmon Apiary

the stores they have put by. Nectar and pollen are the must-have consumables within the hive, to aid them through what should be an absence of forage.

When temperatures are below 9, colony activity will be much reduced. The bees will form a cluster (ball shape); this is winter mode. Any activity at all will be to use their stores and to control the inner temperature of the hive. External foraging trips will cease!

However, winter has not yet kicked in and so I must keep checking on the colonies and looking to their welfare.

How do I check my supposedly overwintering colonies?

Well I do not open them up and rummage about inside. I remove the roof (it is heavy) then I go to the back of the hive and using one hand, grip the floor section and gently lift ('hefting' it is the term used here).

It should feel heavy, or at least resist my effort to lift it, providing a rough guide as to its contents (bees plus stores). Doing this to several colonies you can and will notice a difference in weights.

While not being super accurate it is a good indicator and has allowed me to aid the lighter ones while conditions allow, ie bee activity and mild weather.

Will we get lower temperatures? If we do, and the bees adopt their

winter survival mode, I am hopeful that each colony is prepared for such an eventuality and will emerge fighting fit in the spring.

I do, of course, have the ever-present varroa mite to consider and controlling its numbers is not yet an exact process. It will survive on the overwintering bees very well.

Come next year, when the queen bee starts to lay and the colony expands, so too will the mite and bees will die because of its presence.

Having done what I can to aid the colonies with feedstuffs and control of the varroa mite, ever the optimist – next year will surely be better.

HAROLD WILLIAMS

WIs end successful year with carols

AS the final event in a magnificent year celebrating the 100th anniversary of the founding of the WI in Wales, England and the Channel Islands, the Glamorgan Federation of Women's Institutes held a carol festival in the Brangwyn Hall, Swansea on December 7.

Over 500 members and their friends and families attended the concert and were treated to a wonderful selection of Christmas music.

Alun Tregelles Williams conducted the Glamorgan Federation massed choir and Huw Tregelles Williams

accompanied them on the organ. There were performances by guest artists Gail Pearson, soprano, Steffan Jones, baritone.

Other guests included Mrs Ann Jones, Federation of Wales chair, Mrs Rhian Connick, head of NFWI Wales and two members of the Carmarthen Federation board of trustees.

Glamorgan Federation chairman, Mrs Carolyn Davies thanked the choir and the artists for making the festival a musical feast and everyone agreed that the concert was a fitting end to the centenary year, and a delightful start to the Christmas festivities.

JE

Christmas concert crazy!

IT has been Christmas concert crazy over the last two weeks at Gladstone Primary School with 10 performances taking place throughout the fortnight, the children performing each time to a full house.

The nursery children started the Christmas celebrations and added some cute factor with 'Snowy Chums' followed by the foundation phase children who were spectacular in their performance of 'A Midwife Crisis'.

Later in the week, the junior children wowed their audience with their concert, 'The Late Wise Man', accompanied by composer and pianist David George Harrington, who played magnificently throughout.

"We are very proud of our children who performed beyond our expectations. We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our Gladstone families a peaceful and very happy Christmas."

Caroline Newman, headteacher



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PETERSTON-SUPER-ELY WI RETURNS – FOLLOWING A BREAK OF FIVE YEARS

Photographs by
IAN DIXON

THE newly-formed WI branch in Peterston-super-Ely recently celebrated the WI centenary by hosting a tea party in the church and community hall.

The branch was formed in February 2015, and already has 43 members.

The hall was decorated with 28 wedding dresses, supplied by the members, and there was a celebration cake, a raffle and a sumptuous tea.

Neighbouring WI members from Pendoylan, St Hilary and St Nicholas were invited.

In fact, St Nicholas WI was able to return a trophy that they had looked after when the Peterston branch closed five years ago.

In addition, a banner made by the original group in 1972 took pride of place in front of around 80 guests.



Annual awards evening held at the Cardiff Vale College



All of the award winners on the stage at CAVC's City Centre Campus.

THE Cardiff and Vale College recently held its annual awards evening in the new city centre campus for the first time.

Twenty students, plus the college's partner organisations were recognised for their efforts and contribution to college life.

The event itself took place in the stunning surroundings of the city centre campus Atrium, where NoFit State Circus wowed guests with a daring promenade performance 'silks routine', suspended from the 30 metre high roof of the campus.

The ceremony itself was hosted by broadcaster Jason Mohammad, a former student of the college.

All of the students recognised have progressed on to university courses, the next level at college, or within their careers. Cardiff and Vale College principal and chief executive Mike James said: "I offer my hearty congratulations to all of our award winners. It has been fantastic to celebrate all of their achievements."

"The annual awards are a

great reminder of the impact learning has and the opportunities it can create. It also reminds me what a privilege it is to be working in our exciting college."

The winners included Brian Davies OBE, who won the college's Alumni award. Brian, the chef de mission of Team Wales, was in charge of the Commonwealth Games squad that recorded the highest medal tally for a Welsh team.

Former A Level student, Joel Ringer, won the award for contribution to college life. Joel, from Penarth, was the first captain of the college's extremely successful rugby academy, and also gained the chance to develop his sporting career with rugby giants Toulon.

The Principal's Award for the student who best reflects the college's values through achievement, attitude or participation in extracurricular activities, went to Adam Litchfield. The 22-year-old Level 3 refinishing student from Cardiff, this year won the gold medal at the WorldSkills UK competition, making him the

best auto refinishing student in the whole of the UK. He also won the transport services award.

This year the competition was so great between the college's Business and IT students that two winners had to be chosen for this category.

Cardiff IT student Ella Jenkins started college with a very basic level in computing but has gone on to get the best grades possible. She has become a STEM ambassador and has helped plan an IT and networking workshop.

Megan Harrington, also from Cardiff, studies Business at CAVC. A member of the 'Career Ready' programme, Megan has completed an internship at Freshfields, one of the world's biggest law firms, and is set to progress on to a law degree at Greenwich University.

Connor Marks from Barry won the apprenticeship award. He started at CAVC as a full time student, but it didn't work out for him, so he successfully went down the apprenticeship route. Excelling despite recovering from a serious

motorbike accident, Connor has since set up his own salon. He funded the start-up himself and now employs his own CAVA apprentice.

Connor said, "I'm just very grateful to be put forward for an award and to be invited to this event in the campus – the building is gorgeous!"

Lewis Richmond, also from Barry, won the Aerospace Award. An exceptional student, Lewis is studying a BSc (Hons) in aircraft engineering and his journal and portfolio have been used as exemplary good practice.

"I'm really happy," he said. "I've always done my work for myself because I wanted to get the best I can from education so I never thought about winning awards. It's a real bonus and it's lovely."

The Creative Industries Award was won by Claudia Fredriksen from Cardiff; an art and design learner, Claudia has used her time at CAVC to come to terms with some real challenges that life has thrown at her.



THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL • CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990

Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012

Development that may affect a Conservation Area/ Datblygu a allai effeithio ar Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2015/00249/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig: Development of 96 houses and associated open space vehicular and pedestrian access landscaping and infrastructure, including the demolition of Emmaville
Location:/Lleoliad: Land to the East of St. Nicholas
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth St. Nicholas

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2015/01322/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig: Proposed new two bed dwelling including demolition of existing buildings
Location:/Lleoliad: 21, Victoria Road, Penarth
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Penarth

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2015/01341/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig: The demolition of existing offices/stables and construction of a detached live/work unit
Location:/Lleoliad: Cottage Farm, Michaelston le Pit Road, Michaelston le Pit
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Michaelston-le-Pit

Conservation Area Consent/ Caniatâd Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2015/01357/CAC
Proposal/Cynnig: Proposed new two bed dwelling including demolition of existing buildings
Location:/Lleoliad: 21, Victoria Road, Penarth
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Penarth

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2015/01358/CAC
Proposal/Cynnig: The demolition of existing offices/stables and construction of a detached live/work unit
Location:/Lleoliad: Cottage Farm, Michaelston le Pit Road, Michaelston le Pit
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Michaelston-le-Pit

Listed Building Consent/ Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2015/01355/LBC
Proposal/Cynnig: Alteration and refurbishment of Saron Chapel and associated vestry building
Location:/Lleoliad: Saron Chapel, Treoes
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2015/01367/LBC
Proposal/Cynnig: To remove the existing brick chimney breast and walls between the kitchen and utility room to create a larger kitchen
Location:/Lleoliad: Great House, Llanmaes
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II*

Affecting setting of a Listed Building/ Cais (au) sy'n effeithio ar leoliad Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2015/01328/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig: Alteration and refurbishment of Saron Chapel and associated vestry building
Location:/Lleoliad: Saron Chapel, Treoes
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Affecting Saron Welsh Congregational Chapel, Treoes, Grade II

Application(s) of General Interest/ Ceisiadau o Ddiddordeb Cyffredinol

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2015/00249/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig: Development of 96 houses and associated open space vehicular and pedestrian access landscaping and infrastructure, including the demolition of Emmaville
Location:/Lleoliad: Land to the East of St. Nicholas

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2015/00662/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig: Proposed residential development for 21 dwellings and associated highway and ancillary works
Location:/Lleoliad: Land to the east of Mink Hollow, St. Nicholas

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2015/01343/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig: Proposed office building and associated works
Location:/Lleoliad: Units 5 and 6, Sutton Road, Llandow

May affect a Public Right of Way/ Gall effeithio ar Hawl Tramwy Cyhoeddus

Application No:/Rhif y cais: 2015/00662/FUL

Proposal/Cynnig: Proposed residential development for 21 dwellings and associated highway and ancillary works
Location:/Lleoliad: Land to the east of Mink Hollow, St. Nicholas

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2015/01421/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig: Proposed replacement farm house
Location:/Lleoliad: South of B4265 and South West of Seaview, St. Athan

Departure from Development Plan/ Gwro o'r Cynllun Datblygu

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2015/00249/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig: Development of 96 houses and associated open space vehicular and pedestrian access landscaping and infrastructure, including the demolition of Emmaville
Location:/Lleoliad: Land to the East of St. Nicholas

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2015/00662/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig: Proposed residential development for 21 dwellings and associated highway and ancillary works
Location:/Lleoliad: Land to the east of Mink Hollow, St. Nicholas

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2015/01293/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig: Rural Enterprise Dwelling incorporating bed and breakfast accommodation and the change of use of land to enable siting of two shepherds huts as associated accommodation
Location:/Lleoliad: Land adjacent to the Vicarage Field, Southerndown Road, St. Brides Major

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2015/01341/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig: The demolition of existing offices/stables and construction of a detached live/work unit
Location:/Lleoliad: Cottage Farm, Michaelston le Pit Road, Michaelston le Pit

Application(s) with Environmental Statement/ Cais (au) gyda Datganiad Amgylcheddol

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 8

Proposed development at Site known as South Quay, Barry Waterfront, Barry.

I give notice that Taylor Wimpey South Wales is applying to The Vale of Glamorgan Council for Planning Permission to Development of site known as South Quay (Parkside) for residential development and associated infrastructure works, parking servicing and landscape. The proposal has been submitted with an environmental statement which can be inspected at the address given below. Members of the public may obtain copies of the environmental statement from PAD Design, The Tobacco Factory, Raleigh Road, Bristol. BS3 1TF so long as stocks last.

Members of the public may inspect copies of:

- The application.
- The plans.
- The environmental statement.
- Other documents submitted with the application.

at the address given below during all reasonable hours until 7 January, 2016.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should write to the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below by 7 January 2016 quoting reference 2015/01305/RES.

HYSBYSIAD O DAN ERTHYGL 8

Datblygiad arfaethedig yn Site known as South Quay, Barry Waterfront, Barry

Hysbysir trwy hyn Taylor Wimpey South Wales n gwneud cais i Gyngor Bro Morgannwg am Ganiatâd Cynllunio ar gyfeirnod 2015/01305/RES South Quay (Parkside) for residential development and associated infrastructure works, parking servicing and landscape

Cafodd y cynnig ei gyflwyno gyda datganiad amgylcheddol sydd ar gael i'w ddarllen yn y cyfeiriad isod. Members of the public may obtain copies of the environmental statement from PAD Design, The Tobacco Factory, Raleigh Road, Bristol. BS3 1TF so long as stocks last.

Caiff aelodau o'r cyhoedd hefyd ddarllen copïau o'r:

- cais;
- cynlluniau;
- datganiad amgylcheddol;
- dogfennau eraill a gyflwynwyd gyda'r cais,

yn y cyfeiriad isod yn ystod oriau rhesymau tan 7 January, 2016.

Dylai unrhyw un sydd am wneud sylwadau ar y cais ysgrifennu at Bennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant y cyngor (gwelwch y dudalen ar waelod y dudalen) erbyn 7 January 2016 an ddyfynnu'r cyfeiriad 2015/01305/RES Details may be inspected for 21 days at the address given below, or via <http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/>

Gall manylion eu harchwilio am 21 diwrnod yn y cyfeiriad a roddir isod, neu drwy <http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/>

Dated / Dyddiedig 17 December, 2015

V. L. Robinson
Operational Manager, Regeneration and Planning,
Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Barry. CF63 4RT

Dinas Golf Club holds ladies drive-in



ON November 24, Dinas Powis Golf Club ladies section held its Ladies' Drive In.

Audrey Harwood was chosen to drive and hit a lovely drive and landed the ball straight on the 18th green. Annie Blackburn's marker was nearest the ball and won a bottle of wine. Well done, ladies.

On November 24, a 9-hole Turkey Trot 5 Medal was held: first, Lisa Ryley 44 - 7.5 = 36.5 nett; second, Angela Brown 49 - 11 = 38, on back 6 from third. Sian Smith 49 - 11 = 38.

On December 1, a 9-hole Turkey Trot 6 Stableford: first, Audrey Harwood 20 pts; second, Annie Blackburn 17pts; third, Ann Mahenthalingam 15pts

on countback from Carol Reeves.

On December 3, a 9-hole Mulled Wine was held: first, Lisa Ryley 19pts; second, Angela Brown 17pts; third, Annie Blackburn 16pts

on countback from Sue Bridle, Sian Smith and Vicki Ellison. Visitor's prize was Sandra Martin from Newport Golf Club, 17pts. Longest drive was Vicki Ellison. After playing golf, the ladies enjoyed a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie.

On December 8, a Texas Scramble: first, Lisa Ryley, Vicki Ryley, Chris Nelms 32.4; second, Maxine Hird, Sian Smith, Pat Gibbs 33.2; third, Ann Mahenthalingam, Sally Livesy Davies, Rhian Thomas 34.

RY

Bowling club members in festive mood



OVER 40 members and guests of Barry Central Bowling club enjoyed their traditional Christmas dinner at the Cwm Ciddy carvery on Friday, December 11.

The party was joined by club president Mr S Smith and Mrs Smith. During the evening, a very successful free raffle was carried out with prizes being won by a number of guests and members.

The next social event will be the Christmas coffee morning on Saturday, December 19 starting at 10.30am. A warm welcome is extended to anyone wishing to visit the bowling club in Gladstone Road, Barry and enjoy coffee and a mince pie.

The club is currently recruiting new members – men, women and young people – who wish to learn to play. We have free coaching courses throughout April and May.

Contact Mrs J Morgan, 01446 412976, or Mr J Wathes on 01446 719442.

JRW

PENARTH HOCKEY FIRSTS END YEAR WITH A 100 PER CENT RECORD!

TEN goals for and a miserly two against, allied to victories for both the first and second XIs, ensured that Penarth Hockey Club would have two teams at the top of the tree as the GoCrea8 league heads into its Christmas break.

PENARTH 4, WHITCHURCH 'B' 0
Penarth hosted Whitchurch 'B' in the first return fixture of the season looking to consolidate their position at the top of the De Cymru & The Marches 1 division.

Before pushback, both teams gathered in the centre circle to join the wider hockey family up and down the country in observing a minute of silence in support of Old Loughtonians Hockey Club, who lost Tom Wilson on Wednesday to a tragic accident at training.

The thoughts and prayers of everyone at Penarth Hockey Club is with Wilson's family and friends at this sad time.

Whitchurch looked a far stronger team than the one that suffered a 13-1 mauling at the hands of the Bears in the first game of the season, while Penarth fielded a streamlined squad with captain Tom Haran stepping down to the seconds and man of the moment Jonny Moore missing through injury.

The home team, however, were still confident of victory with plenty of quality still on show.

From pushback, Whitchurch showed their intent, sitting deep and absorbing pressure, determined to be a far tougher team to break down this time around.

In difficult and windy conditions against a team looking to frustrate and contain Penarth's free-scoring offence, the game lacked the quality and performance that the Vale side had become

accustomed to over the first half of the season.

However, with Penarth applying the pressure and Whitchurch packing bodies into their 'D', the visitors were always vulnerable to conceding penalty corners, which is a dangerous game to play with Laith El-Khatib on the pitch and Penarth looking to their set-piece specialists to get the goals.

After a string of such corners, it wasn't long before El-Khatib found his rhythm, firing a drag flick low into the bottom corner to give Penarth the lead.

Continuing to pile the pressure on, Penarth were awarded another penalty corner, but this time El-Khatib's low goal-bound effort was denied by a defender's leg on the goal line, giving player-coach Ben Croxall the chance to double the lead from the spot.

Croxall duly sent the keeper the wrong way again and this time found the back of the net to redeem himself after missing from the spot a few weeks earlier.

Chances in open play continued to be few and far between for the home team, but the penalty corners continued to flow and El-Khatib was happy to oblige as he found the bottom corner again to grab his brace and extend the advantage to three.

Stand-in captain Chris Baker then grabbed the only goal from open play to further widen the margin between the teams, although his effort relied on a big slice of luck as, having worked his way to the by-line.

His cross found the stick of a Whitchurch defender, which deflected the ball high over the keeper's head and into the roof of the net.

Despite Penarth leading 4-0 at the interval, the second half turned out to be a rather forgetful affair, with Whitchurch showing no threat upfront and opting to 'park the bus' in defence. Penarth were unable to adapt their game to break the visitors down and the game remained 4-0 to the end, with the home side visibly frustrated at failing to finish off the first half of the season in the way they had hoped.

The Bears can reflect on 12 wins from 12, scoring 93 goals against only 13 in reply, and sitting nine points clear at the top of the table.

Having also qualified for the semi-final of the Cup, the Vale side can head into the break more than happy, with the disappointment at 'only' registering a 4-0 victory and a third clean sheet in a row merely highlighting their rapid progress since August.

PENARTH 'A' 5, WHITCHURCH 'E' 1
Penarth's 2nd XI went into the final league game of 2015 knowing they could open a small gap at the top of De Cymru 2 by winning their game in hand and, having watched the firsts beat Whitchurch in the day's earlier game, set their sights on gaining a double over their local rivals.

When Whitchurch arrived at Stanwell with former GB international - and Stanwell teacher - Mark Lewis in their squad, it left the home side under no illusion of the task ahead.

With Haran coming into Penarth's line-up, the game looked set for a colossal midfield battle, but it was not to last as the younger man came out on top when Lewis was sadly forced to withdraw having picked up an injury.

The veteran's absence allowed Haran to stamp his authority on the game and it wasn't long before he was dominating possession, bursting past Whitchurch's midfield and laying the ball off to team-mates.

It was one of these runs that, following and interchange with James Kidby, eventually set Owen Hopkins up to open the scoring.

Penarth soon made it 2-0 when, following a crisp passing move that started from defence, Chris McCarthy found Matthew Birch at the back post for a simple tap-in, but it was not all one-way traffic as Whitchurch kept the home side honest at the back, with goalkeeper Adam Putt called on to make a couple of clearances to maintain his clean sheet.

With a comfortable 2-0 lead, the half-time talk was all about Penarth repeating what they had done during the first half but, this time, with a tiring opposition and the wind behind them, the Bears knew it was important to keep possession and keep playing the game the way they wanted to.

McCarthy was next on the scoresheet, finishing decisively after the energetic Tom Parkinson had used his power to create the opportunity, and he added another soon afterwards to again finish the game with a double.

This time, Nathan Townsend intercepted a Whitchurch penalty corner and, using his sublime pace, gave a short pass to Birch on his own 23-yard line.

The captain then fired an accurate first-time pass to Hopkins in the top left corner, before another pinpoint provision found McCarthy bursting into the 'D' to leave Whitchurch shell-shocked as their own opportunity turned into Penarth's fourth goal in a matter of seconds.

The visitors refused to crumble, however, and used their veteran nous to pull one back, with a crashed ball from defence catching Penarth on their heels.

Although Putt closed down the initial threat, the ensuing cross was deflected onto a Penarth foot and, despite not being goal-bound, resulted in a penalty flick which was duly converted with aplomb.

Penarth hit back almost immediately and, with just five minutes remaining, put the game beyond doubt with the final goal of 2015 at their new home.

Having kept possession for most of the day, the entire team must have seen the ball during the move, which ended with Jamie Davidson firing an accurate ball to the penalty spot, where an unmarked Birch deflected it into the far corner to make the final score 5-1.

Man-of-the-match honours went to Haran for his polished midfield display, but any one of a number of players could have deserved the accolade as Penarth head into the Christmas break with a goal difference of +28 and a four-point lead.

While Hopkins departs the club after the break, captain Birch can look forward to the welcome return of Sam Chick and David Kidby, both of whom were cruelly ruled out in October through injury.

SWANSEA CITY 'C' 1, PENARTH 'B' 1
Penarth Bees travelled to Swansea for a morning fixture more in hope than expectation given the heavy defeat suffered at Bridgend the week

before, and the fact that the Swansea side had already inflicted their own mauling on the Penarth side in the reverse fixture.

Despite fielding a bare 11, including skipper Nick Pratt returning from injury, it was remarkable, therefore, that the Bees secured a highly creditable 1-1 draw and, in the end, were disappointed to not secure a win.

In a very impressive game, the organisation of the Penarth side in frustrating the home team, the speed on the counter-attack and, ultimately, their domination towards the end of the match stood out.

Indeed, it was only a superb performance by the debutant Swansea keeper in denying David Thomas, Sam Salisbury and Pratt that denied Penarth victory. When the keeper was beaten, as by a Pratt shot from the left-hand side of the 'D', Lady Luck intervened as what appeared to be a ball destined for the top right corner inexplicably veered off target in the last few feet.

It was the impressive Ian Smith who eventually opened the scoring with a good first half finish following a penalty corner breakdown, leaving the interval scoreline at a deserved 1-0 to the Bees.

The second half started with Swansea pressing hard, but the Penarth defence - marshalled by sweeper Si Wilkinson - held firm, with vice-captain Rob Harrison outstanding in the unfamiliar position of left back.

When the defensive line was breached, keeper Jason Harris was in imperious form, dealing with everything that came his way, and it was only from a somewhat harsh penalty corner awarded by an unsighted umpire that allowed the home side to finally force an equaliser.

Penarth proceeded to redouble their efforts, with the midfield trio of Paul and Dave Thomas and man-of-the-match Devash Patel, supported by defensive linchpin Morgan Salisbury, driving Penarth forward and bringing the Swansea keeper more and more in to the game.

Unable to force the win, however, Penarth had to be satisfied with a highly creditable - if somewhat unexpected - draw that bodes well for the second half of the season.

Penarth Hockey Club always welcomes new, old and returning players, umpires, supporters, friends and helpers regardless of age and ability.

Training takes place on Wednesdays at Stanwell School, with the juniors on the pitch between 6.15pm and 7.15pm and the seniors between 7.15pm and 8.15pm.

Anyone interested in joining the club at senior or youth level can contact either player-coach Ben Croxall (b_croxall20@yahoo.co.uk) or club secretary Dave Stevens (d_stevens81@hotmail.co.uk) for further information.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

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We are acting for the mortgagees in possession and have received an offer of £76,000 for the above mentioned property. Any interested parties must submit any higher offers in writing to the Agent before exchange of contracts takes place.

Agents Name and Address:

Nina Estate Agents Ltd
1 Broad Street
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The Vale of Glamorgan Council (CLIVE ROAD, BARRY ISLAND (PART)) (ROAD CLOSURE) (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2016

- On 17th December 2015 the Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), made an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below:
- The Order will be known as "The Vale of Glamorgan Council (Clive Road, Barry Island (Part)) (Road Closure) (Temporary) Order" 2015.

SCHEDULE 1

- No person shall cause or permit a motor vehicle to proceed in the location specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

Location	Clive Road, Barry Island from its junction with the access road that leads into Barry island car park at grid 311262 and continuing in a northeasterly direction for a distance approximately 50m.
Reason	To allow junction improvement works to take place.
Duration	From 8.00am on Monday 4th January 2016 for a maximum period of 18 Months. It is anticipated that the works will be concluded by 24th March 2016 (weather permitting).
Alt Route	Diversion for traffic will be available via Plymouth Road, Archer Road, and along the remaining open section of Clive Road.
NB:	Pedestrian access will be maintained at all times.
Dated this 17th day of December 2015.	
M. E. Punter,	
Director of Environment & Housing	
Vale of Glamorgan Council,	
The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.	



Cyngor Bro Morgannwg 2015 GORCHYMYN (CAU FFORDD) (DROS DRO) (CLIVE ROAD, YNYS Y BARRI (RHAN YN UNIG))

- Ar 17 Rhagfyr 2015, gan arfer ei bwerau o dan Adran 14 Deddf Rheoli Traffig y Ffyrdd 1984 (ddiwygiedig), gwnaeth Cyngor Bro Morgannwg Orchymyn y mae ei effaith gyffredinol wedi'i disgrifio yn yr atodlenni isod:
- Adwaenir y Gorchymyn fel "Gorchymyn (Cau Ffordd) (Dros Dro) (Clive Road, Ynys Y Barri (Rhan yn Unig)) 2015."

ATOLDEN 1

- Ni fydd unrhyw un yn gyrru nac yn caniatáu i unrhyw un arall yrru cerbyd modur yn y fan a nodwyd yn Atodlen 2 isod.

ATOLDEN 2

Lleoliad	Clive Road, Ynys Y Barri, o'r gyffordd â'r ffordd fynediad sy'n arwain i faes parcio Ynys Y Barri wrth gyfeirnod grid 311262 166786 am yrrw 50m i gyfeiriad y gogledd ddwyrair.
Rheswm	Gwellat'r gyffordd.
Cyfnod	O 8.00am ar ddydd Llun 4 Ionawr 2016, am 18 mis yn unig. Rhagweli'r bydd y gwaith wedi'i gwblhau erbyn 24 Mawrth 2016 (os ceir tywydd braf).
Llwybr arall	Bydd y traffig yn cael ei ddargyfeirio ar hyd Plymouth Road, Archer Road a'r rhan o Clive Road sy'n dal ar agor.
DS:	Bydd mynediad i gerddwyr ar hyd yr amser.
Dyddiedig 17 Rhagfyr 2015.	
M. E. Punter,	
Cyfarwyddwr yr Amgylchedd a Thai,	
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Canolfan yr Alpau, Gwentf. CF5 6AA.	



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Latest distribution for **The GEM** 45,271 WEEKLY COPIES
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The number of local paid-for newspapers continues to decline. Here, we keep you up to date with the...

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South Wales Echo	21,036	Paid 65p
Western Mail	20,007	Paid 80p
Glamorgan Gazette	9,094	Paid 90p
Wales on Sunday	16,060	Paid £1.50

The GEM's weekly figure includes door to door delivery and numerous popular outlets from Penarth to Porthcawl

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please note:

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Public Notices



Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru Natural Resources Wales

Deddf Bywyd Gwyllt a Chefn Gwlad 1981 (fel y'i diwygiwyd)

Hysbysu Safle o Ddiddordeb Gwyddonol Arbennig o dan Adran 28 (1)

Rhoddir rhybudd trwy hyn bod Corff Adnoddau Naturiol Cymru a enwir yn Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru yn ystyried Fferm Walters yn Safle o Ddiddordeb Gwyddonol Arbennig (SoDdGA).

Y mae'r safle hwn i'r Gorllewin o Y Barri, yn syth i'r Gogledd o Croes Waycock ac i'r Gogledd-orllewin o'r A4226 yn Awdurdod Unedol Bro Morgannwg.

Mae'n ymestyn dros arwynebedd o 24.87 hectar. Canolir y safle ar Cyfeirnod Grid Cenedlaethol ST 099688.

Mae'r safle o ddiddordeb arbennig oherwydd ei glaswelltir helaeth, niwtral, llawn rhywogaethau.

O dan yr hysbysiad hwn mae'n ofynnol i bob perchennog a deiliaid hysbysu'r CNC am rai gweithrediau arbennig a allai amharu ar ddiddordeb arbennig y safle. Gall methu â gwneud hynny fod yn gyfystr â throesedd.

Nid yw'r hysbysiad hwn yn rhoi unrhyw hawliau mynediad i SoDdGA Fferm Walters

Gall unrhyw un sydd â diddordeb yn y tir wneud sylwadau ynghyd yr hysbysiad yn ysgrifenedig at CNC yn y cyfeiriad isod erbyn 14 Mawrth 2016.

Gellir cael manylion llawn am yr hysbysiad gan gynnwys map, disgrifiad o'r safle a rhestr o weithrediau a allai fod yn niweidiol a datganiad o farn CNC am reoli'r tir oddi wrth:

Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru, Plas yr Afon, Parc Busnes Llanelwyr, Caerdydd, CF3 0EY

Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)

Notification of a Site of Special Scientific Interest under Section 28 (1)

Notice is hereby given that the Natural Resource Body for Wales otherwise known as Natural Resources Wales considers Fferm Walters to be a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

The site is located West of Barry, North of Waycock Cross and to the NW of the A4226 in the Unitary Authority of the Vale of Glamorgan.

It covers an area of 24.87 hectares, centred on National Grid Reference ST 099688.

The site is of special interest for its exceptionally large area of species-rich neutral grassland.

Under this notification there is a requirement on all owners and occupiers to notify NRW of certain operations which may damage the special interest of the site. Failure to do so may constitute an offence.

This notification does not confer any rights of access to Fferm Walters SSSI

Any person with an interest in the land may make representations regarding the notification in writing to NRW at the address below by 14 March 2016.

Full details of the notification including a map, site description and list of potentially damaging operations and a statement on NRW's views about the management of the land can be obtained from:

Natural Resources Wales, Rivers House, St Mellons Business Park, Cardiff, CF3 0EY

Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

Powerfreight Ltd of 81 Sky Peals Road, Woodford Green, IG8 9NE is applying to change an existing licence as follows:

- To keep an extra 2 goods vehicles and 2 trailers at the operating centre at Unit 55, Vale Business Park, Llandow, Cowbridge, CF71 7PF. Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

Anyone believing they have a claim against the estate of the late **DAVID SMITH** of 12 Clos Y Wiwer, Llantwit Major, CF61 2SG contact executors at Jordans Solicitors Birmingham 0121 585 3900, or the address above. **Deadline 8 weeks & 1 day from notice.**

Lost & Found

FOUND

A pair of pink glasses in gold case, around two weeks ago in Cowbridge park 01446 775985

Property

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- No upfront fees!
- Any condition!
- Stop repossession!
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near Llantwit Major requires
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- Full & part time available
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Contact Jo or Naina on 01446 793544

A vacancy has become available for a
Receptionist
(Full/part time)
to work in a busy, friendly office at **The Glamorgan GEM** based in Cowbridge.
Please email Jan Irving at jan.irving@tindlenews.co.uk with a covering letter and CV. Closing date December 31st.

Birthdays

Rebecca Gill

Congratulations on your 18th Birthday on December 19, 2015

All our love,
Nannie &
Herbie Xxx

Articles For Sale

FOR SALE
Approx 100 tonnes of hand picked blue pennant random walling stone.
Large quantity of various types, various sizes of salvaged timber.
Contact: 07913 257361

Pride C15KD Riser Recliner, beige - £70.
Days 240L Tri walking aid with brakes plus bag - £20.
Tel: 07896 983013

Bunk Bed
Sleeps 3, as new - £100
T 029 20 530115 (Buyer collects)

For sale
LCD PC monitor, 17" (4:3 ratio). As new, £15.
01446 775810

2 Wardrobes
White, each 40" x 24" x 72" high. Double doors, could be disassembled /re-assembled. Good condition - £50 for the 2.
Cash only sale, buyer to collect.
02920 514564 (Dinas Powys)

Sharp TV
32" Flat Screen. Good working order £40
01446 773210

B+O Music Center
Beocenter 2200 33/45 turntable, cassette player, radio, recording facility, separate speakers, full working order. £350 cash sale. (Buyer to collect)
02920 514564

Three Piece Suite
Very good condition, top quality. £250 ono. (Buyer Collect)
01446 773166

Three Wheeler Walker
with basket, tray & brakes. Bought £70 will sell for £40 ono. Only used once in the house.
01446 720536

Motors For Sale

Invaded Sovereign Scooter
Excellent condition. Many adjustable features. Spacious seating. Head/rear lights, side mirror horn. £350
01446 794358

Renault Megane Scenic
2003 Diesel. New MOT. £600 ono
01446 405229 for further details

Family Notices

Chamberlain Paul Anthony

Suddenly, on December 8, Paul of Rhose, a dearly loved father and gramp.
Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James & Sons, Fommon. Funeral Tuesday, December 29, service and cremation 11am at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry.
Flowers may be sent to the Funeral Home.

HALL Norma

Peacefully on December 11 at the University Hospital of Wales - Norma, well known for her time as a hospital chaplain at Barry Hospital & UHW, Cardiff. Also a member of All Saints Church Choir. Devoted wife to Mike, much loved mum of Sophie, Scott, James and her faithful dog UGO. Loving mangu to Isaac, Jonathan, Emma and Thomas. Step mum of Nicola and Michaela. She will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Norma is being cared for by Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, 181 Court Road, Barry until her service at All Saints Church, Barry on Thursday, December 31 at 10.30am, followed by cremation at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium. Family flowers only - donations if desired may be made via Norma's online tribute page, www.valefuneralservice.co.uk, to support Dogs For Good charity. Further enquiries to Lyndsay J Ellis 01446 407962

JACQUES Philip

The family of the late Phil wish to thank all friends and acquaintances for the overwhelming amount of cards, flowers and donations received in his memory and for attending his funeral in such high numbers.

Special thanks to Mark B. for his humorous memories of Phil over the years and to Duncan Ballantyne and the staff at A.G. Adams & Son.

SMITH

Graham Edward Bentley

Peacefully at Llandough Hospital, Penarth on December 6th, Graham of Atlantic Place, Barry. Dearly beloved husband of Brenda, devoted father of Karen, loved brother of Austin, loving uncle to all his nieces and nephews.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son, Tynnewydd Funeral Home, Gladstone Road, Barry, until his funeral service and committal at the Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry on Tuesday, December 22nd at 11am. Flowers may be sent to the funeral home.

SUGDEN

Michael James (Jim)

Suddenly at Great Western Hospital Swindon on December 5, Jim aged 73 years. Beloved husband of Sue, much loved dad of Jayne and Gavin, son-in-law Gareth and daughter-in-law Dawn. Adored gramp to Danielle, Perry, Melissa, Jamie and Thomas.

Jim will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son until the funeral service in the chapel of rest on Monday, December 21 at 3pm, followed by committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium. Family flowers only, donations in lieu, if so desired, for British Heart Foundation or The Stroke Association c/o the Funeral Director.
At Jim's request please, no black ties.

HILL

Arthur Reynolds

Peacefully in his sleep at Llandough Hospital, Penarth on December 9th, Arthur of Cae Glas, Barry. Dearly beloved husband of the late Doreen, much loved dad of Lynda, Judith and Roger.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son, Tynnewydd Funeral Home, Gladstone Road, Barry until his funeral service in the chapel on Wednesday, December 23 at 4pm, followed by cremation at the Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry at 5pm.
Family flowers only but donations in lieu of flowers to Ty Hafan, The Children's Hospice in Wales, Appeals Office, Hayes Road, Sully, CF64 5XX.

The GEM
01446 774484

BIRD

Eric Osbourne
23rd December 2014

In loving memory of a dear husband to Judy, father to Simon and Sara, grampy to Sam. Always in our thoughts, with much love.

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In Memory

HISCOCK

Jennifer Mary

Our 10th Christmas without you.
As we prepare for Christmas, our thoughts will be of you,
You always made our Christmases the happiest we ever knew.
We'll try our best to celebrate the birth of Christ the King.
But in our hearts we realise we've lost our everything.
Love from your husband Phil. Xxx

Birthday Memories

BIRTHDAY MEMORIES

Jamie Adamson

(25.12.1998 - 20.01.2004)

"Another year has been and gone since you passed away, But in our hearts and memories you will always stay. We miss your love and laughter and how we used to play, So Happy Birthday darling for this coming Christmas Day."
Love always, Daddy, Sam, Denise and family xxxxx



Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and thinking of all the children and staff in hospital over the Christmas period. Thanks to everyone who has supported Jamie's charity (jamifund.co.uk) during the past year.

Seasons Greetings

Eileen & Tony Bennett & Ruby
of Llantwit Major would like to wish all their friends in the Vale a very happy Christmas and best wishes for 2016.

Elizabeth Hiscock, Sandra & Keith

Would like to wish all our family, friends and neighbours a Happy Christmas and a Good New Year with huge thanks to all who have visited and sent regards to mum during her long hospital stay.

Never forgetting our dear 'Polly', we will be making a charitable donation in her memory.

Lots of Love xxx

Sue & Rob Thomas

would like to wish all their dear friends and relations a most blessed and joyous Xmas-tide. May 2016 bring both happiness and good health to all xxx

Once again, this year we are donating to the RNLI and Ty Hafan, in lieu of christmas cards.

BARBARA & JOHN MARSH

would like to wish all their friends & neighbours

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

In lieu of cards, we are sending donations to the Dog's Home.

JOHN & MARY BACON

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Battling under-9s earn draw in local derby!



ON a muddy Sunday morning, Barry RFC under-9s played their annual Santa match against their parents. Great fun was had by all, and the end result was a very diplomatic 7-7 draw.

'Blast from the Past' – 1997 How the 'experts' and Racing Post were put right!

by BRIAN LEE

BACK in 1997 – and if the Racing Post and all the television racing scribes and turf historians were to be believed – *Stately Home*, trained by Haverfordwest's Peter Bowen had become the first horse in the 20th century to achieve 10 chase wins in a season and was awarded the Channel 4 Racing Trophy.

However, I knew differently and phoned Chepstow trainer Milton Bradley as I was sure that his *Grey Dolphin* had won 10 chases during the 1978/79 season. Milton, after giving it some thought, was able to confirm that I was right and in fact his *Grey Dolphin* had won 10 chases during

that season as I had said.

I faxed my findings to the Racing Post to inform them that all the racing journalists had forgotten that Milton Bradley's *Grey Dolphin* had also won 10 handicap chases in a season.

A few days later, I received a phone call from the Racing Post's statistician John Randall telling me that I was correct and that he would do justice to *Grey Dolphin* by writing an article in the Racing Post, listing the horse's achievements along with that of Bradley's *Mighty Marine*, which I had also mentioned in the fax that I had sent to the Racing Post.

However, imagine how I felt when I read in the 1996/1997

Timeform Chasers & Hurdles Annual, recognised as the National Hunt 'bible', that the Racing Post's John Randall was given the credit of 'reminding racing journalists of their short memories'!

For the record, during the 1970s, Milton Bradley's other prolific winner *Mighty Marine* won 24 races and won seven consecutive races in the space of five weeks and three days.

'BRIDGEND BUTCHER BRINGS HOME THE BACON'

Bridgend butcher Jonathon Tudor came in for a spare ride at the Golden Valley Hunt Steeplechases at Bredwardine and brought home the bacon when landing the restricted open race on 12-1 chance *Ollardale*.

Ollardale, who had been pulled up on its two previous starts this season, finished 12 lengths ahead of *Derrig Ann* ridden by west Wales' Dai Jones.

Julian Pritchard, who looks like clinching the national men's point-to-point championship, brought his season's tally of wins to 34 with a treble on *Lets Twist Again* (confined), *Nether Gobions* (men's

open) and *Robero* (maiden division one).

Nether Gobion came home 12 lengths clear of the Llangibby horse *Archer* with the Llangineor mare *Doubting Donna*, under reigning champion Jamie Jukes, a futher 16 lengths away in third place.

Rip Van Winkle, confidently ridden by leading rider Alison Dare, made it four wins in a row in the ladies' open race when accounting for *Bowland Girl* and *Howaryadoon*.

Pip Jones' mount *Most Interesting* was pulled up. *Merger Man*, a five year old described by the experts as having 'no sign of ability' and ridden by David Mansell, was a 14-1 winner of the second division of the maiden.

Sea Tarth, who ran in four point-to-points for Pembrokeshire's Fred Luff last season, and who failed to complete the course on each occasion was a 33-1 winner of the bumper (National Hunt flat race) at Bangor-on-Dee for Pembrokeshire trainer Peter Bowen.

You can e-mail your news, views or pictures to brianlee4@virginmedia.com or phone 02920736438

Bridge news from Barrivale

THE latest results from Barrivale Bridge Club for December 8 are as follows:

First, Mark Roderick and Mick Green, 63.10 per cent; second, Denis Mottram and Peter Millar, 63.02 per cent; third, Jenny Vaughan and Irene Thomas, 59.38 per cent.

Reg Dyer and Ken Hannah won on handicap. New members are always welcome at Barrivale. Telephone 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry, on Tuesdays at 7pm.

DR

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Another Chepstow win for Janet

THE Vale's Mrs Janet Davies had another winner at Chepstow Racecourse when her four-year-old bay gelding *Positively Dylan* landed the closing bumper (National Hunt flat race).

Trained by Llancarfan's Evan Williams, newcomer *Positively Dylan* ran on well under Lewis Gordon in the closing stages to score by two-and-a-half lengths from *Pride of Lcale*.

At the previous November Chepstow fixture, Mrs Davies saw her *Maxanist*, also trained by Evan Williams, win a novices' hurdle race.

BRIAN LEE

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Winning golfers
Julian Golunski,
Dan Jarvis, Neil
McLean with society
captain Brian Jones.

Dan the man at RAF St Athan

EXTREMELY wet conditions underfoot proved an unwelcome experience to the 32 members of the Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society who assembled at RAF St Athan Golf Club last Thursday for their Christmas meeting.

Thankfully the condition of the greens which many found difficult in locating were up to their usual high standard, enabling just a few to return respectable scores.

Dan Jarvis with 32 stableford points finished in first place to collect the RAF St Athan trophy together with seasonal prizes of port, whiskey, wine and a bottle of his favourite Prosecco.

Neil McLean finished runner-up with 29 points followed by four members who all finished with 27 points. With the better back nine proving the deciding factor, society captain Brian Jones took

the last bottle of port, leaving Julian Golunski, Clive Thomas and Tosh Taylor to take home boxes of biscuits or chocolate.

Dai John was rescued from having to undertake his dreaded annual Christmas shopping trip to the Principality when returning home with two tins of seasonal sweets and two bottles of wine when being nearest the pin on two of the four par three holes. Martin David and Keith James were also successful in this category.

Neil McLean hit the longest drive on the selected hole to win the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge sponsored prize and Clive Edwards topped up his drinks cabinet when returning home with the Premier Turf sponsored bottle of whisky.

Clive correctly guessed 34 balls would fail to return home with unfortunately quite a few lost in the saturated fairways.

Jim Hayes' consistent form was once again recognised when collecting the best endeavour

prize, just seeing off the challenge of Dai Llewellyn.

The biggest smile of the day belonged to Aubrey Thomas who collected a large box of chocolates when returning the highest score in the 'over-80s' category, therefore solving his Christmas shopping problem.

John Davies finished runner-up in this category for the 'veteran veterans' followed by Aubrey Bowen and Glyn Watts-Jones.

Mention must be made of the excellent evening meal prepared by caterer Leanne, enjoyed by the competitors, and also special guest John Lee who is now an honorary member of the society.

Thanks also to the members of the society for raising £60 for the Llantwit Major Lifeguards.

Finally society captain Brian Jones and the committee of the Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society wish golfers throughout the Vale a very happy and blessed Christmas and New Year.

T.McC

THE COTTRELL LADIES CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS!



ON Thursday, December 10, Cottrell Park Ladies celebrated Christmas.

Unfortunately the morning competition was cancelled due to the poor weather conditions, but 66 ladies attended the prize-giving in the beautifully decorated Tyler cabin.

The prizes were presented by the ladies' captain Helen Poole and were awarded to the following: Megan Cullinane, Cup of Achievement; Vicki Long, Lady Golfer of the Year, Par Competition, Summer Eclectic Mac; Helen Poole Birdie Tree, Llanfair Trophy, Summer Eclectic Button; Cath Domican, Dragon Brooch; Kay Bradbury, Macmillan Spoon; Rusty Fone, LGU Breakthrough Cancer Brooch; Judy James,

Golf Foundation Brooch; Lorraine Pinton-Bell, Grandmothers Trophy; Liz Overton, Pencarrig Cup; Chris Impey, Super Seventies.

There were 18 Stableford winners with Helen Evans achieving five and 11 Medal winners, with Vicki Long achieving four. Helen thanked Patsie Smith, competition secretary, for her assistance.

Following the prize giving there was entertainment by the committee with Christmas songs, prior to a delicious Christmas lunch enjoyed by all.

Chris Evans was announced as the new vice captain - she thanked Helen Poole for the table presents and for organising the day so well.

Angela Padfield was

thanked for the lovely table decorations. Helen thanked everyone for their support and wished them a happy Christmas, this was followed by coffee and carols.

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Up stepped Bruce to slam the ball into the net to cheers from travelling fans... Oh what fun it is – when Dinas win away!

WITH the majority of fixtures played on grass pitches falling foul of the weather, Dinas travelled to Penrhiwceiber half expecting the referee to call the game off but, despite driving rain and a very heavy pitch, the match went ahead.

The hosts settled first and won an early corner which was cleared and they continued to press for the first 10 minutes, the closest they came to scoring being a good through ball to Neil Evans but he shot wide. Dinas began to settle and a ball out to Ryan Garland saw him close in on goal but he got underneath his shot which cleared the cross bar by some distance. Good work by Rhys Palmer put Adam Johns in on goal but he was crowded out by the Ceiber defence before he could get a shot away.

On the 15 minute mark Dinas were awarded a free kick just

inside the Ceiber half. Nicky Bruce stepped up and hit a superb shot to open the scoring, giving the Ceiber keeper Alex Bailey no chance.

The hosts stepped up their work rate and had Dinas under pressure, forcing two corners which James Curtin, the Dinas keeper dealt with.

The visitors weathered the pressure and a superb through ball from Nathan Donnelly found Rhys Palmer who used his pace to get within striking distance but his effort was just wide of the left upright.

However Ceiber were looking dangerous at times, winning two further corners which the Dinas defence dealt with.

However, on the 32 minute mark Brandon Davies received the ball on the edge of the Dinas area, side-stepped a tackle and hit a superb shot into the top corner of the net for the equaliser.

Dinas were dealt a further blow five minutes before the interval when Mason

Ah-Mun pulled up with

Penrhiwceiber Rangers 1, Dinas Powys 2 by PETER KING

a hamstring injury and was replaced by Luke Swaffield and the half ended all square at 1-1 with Ceiber shading the possession.

Whatever the Dinas management team of Lee Saunders and Rob Bloxham said in their half-time team talk certainly worked wonders as, apart from the first few minutes of the second half, Dinas got more and more on top, creating numerous scoring opportunities as the pitch began to cut up and their superior fitness began to show.

LINK-UP PLAY
James Marr had the first chance hitting a hard low shot just wide from 30 yards, and it was Marr again who hit the left upright a few minutes later and the Ceiber defence managed to scramble the ball away.

Then good link up play down the left wing and a good ball in to

Adam Johns looked promising but he fluffed his shot in the atrocious conditions.

Dinas sensed the win was there for the taking and rang the changes with 20 minutes of the half gone. Tom Edwards replaced Ryan Garland and a few minutes later the hard working Scott Muir made way for Adam Jones.

It was really backs to the wall time for Penrhiwceiber then as they visibly tired, and any time they did manage to play a ball forward, Donnelly and James Bloxham in particular were diving forward to head the ball back into Dinas possession.

Adam Jones soon got into the action for Dinas, squaring a ball to Johns but he was driven wide and his shot from an acute angle was just the wrong side of the right post.

Palmer then looked to

have scored when a defender hit a ball against his legs and it rolled towards the goal-line but a defender just managed to hook it away.

With time running out it looked as if a draw was inevitable but, just a minute from time, Johns was chopped down in the box, the referee pointing straight to the penalty spot.

Up stepped Bruce to slam the ball high into the net to a tremendous cheer from the travelling supporters, to give Dinas the win that their recent play has warranted.

Squad: 1 James Curtin, 2 Rhys Harlin, 3 Mason Ah-Mun, 4 James Bloxham, 5 Nathan Donnelly, 6 James Marr (c), 7 Ryan Garland, 8 Nicky Bruce (2), 9 Scott Muir, 10 Adam Johns, 11 Rhys Palmer, 12 Tom Edwards, 14 Luke Swaffield, 15 Adam Jones, 16 Keiron James.

Next Saturday, December 19, Croesyceiliog visit the Murch (weather permitting), 2pm kick off.

Cowbridge RFC makes progress in SWALEC Bowl

LAST Saturday Cowbridge hosted Milford Haven in the third round of the prestigious SWALEC Bowl.

The visitors play in West Wales League 3A and had lost just once this season. On a breezy, damp, muddy afternoon, this proved to be one of the best games of the season with both teams giving their all from start to finish.

Cowbridge showed their intent from the off. Cowbridge were solid in the first scrum and spun the ball out to the wing; the attack broke down but from the ensuing maul second row Lewys Hopkins secured the ball and charged over for a fine try after just two minutes.

Milford Haven fought back immediately but were unable to capitalise on a succession of penalties awarded to them. Cowbridge then struck a purple patch of running rugby in poor conditions.

The front row of Dai Popham, Ieuan Griffiths and Ben Worrall provided a great platform and second rows Hopkins and Alex Lewis were winning plenty of quality line-out ball.

The backs must have created five or six scoring chances in the next 20 minutes. Ash Thomas and Duncan Evans were both brought down yards from the line, and captain Huw Lougher was inches away after a quick tap penalty by scrum half Richie Howsen. All the while, No. 10 Alec Guard was distributing the ball, but no tries came.

Cowbridge finally added to the score on the 25th minute from the reliable boot of full back Ben Wright. Unfortunately two minutes later flanker Connor Boys was harshly yellow carded and the big visiting pack battered the Cowbridge line and despite some great defence, particularly from back rowers Emyr Stone and Rhod Walker, eventually barged over for an unconverted try.

Cowbridge were on the attack straight from the kick off and from good lineout ball in the 22, some fine passing along the Cowbridge backs resulted in a try in the corner for flying wing Duncan Evans, followed by a tremendous conversion by Ben Wright. Unfortunately top try scorer Will Williams took a nasty hit just before half-time to be replaced by Chris Roberts-Walters, the score at half-time Cowbridge 15, Milford Haven 5.

The second half started very much like the first with a great chase by Emyr Stone putting Cowbridge on the

front foot and a lovely break by wing Evans almost resulted in a try for Rhod Walker.

It was all breathtaking stuff as both teams attacked at every opportunity and the visitors' pack spent much time in the Cowbridge 22 only to be repelled time and time again by the Cowbridge pack that refused to give in.

Connor Boys put in some particularly big hits. However, with minutes to go, Milford Haven were awarded a series of penalties and the pressure finally told as they scored in the corner.

With the Cowbridge faithful holding their breath, the conversion sailed wide. With just a minute to go Milford Haven attacked and one wondered whether Cowbridge would rue missing all those missed opportunities in the first half.

It was not to be for the visitors as Cowbridge stole the ball from the advancing maul and it was all over, the final score Cowbridge 15, Milford Haven 10.

The game was a credit to both sides who gave their all for the full 80 minutes in very difficult conditions with attractive rugby throughout.

Cowbridge deserved the win for creating so many chances with some great running rugby, but it couldn't have been a more nailbiting finish.

Milford Haven stayed for a few hours after and it a pleasure to see both teams and supporters having such a good time together in the clubhouse afterwards.

The youth took on Aberdare on the Police Field, better described as a mudbath. Despite that, both teams attempted to run the ball and Cowbridge missed several opportunities, suffering from a lack of finishing.

Outstanding for Cowbridge were Ben Jones at No.8 and flanker Dan Holder. Unfortunately one of the Aberdare players suffered a nasty knee injury and we wish him a speedy recovery.

The youth have some exciting fixtures coming up. On January 2 they take on St Peters as a curtain raiser for Cardiff v Llanelli at the Arms Park, kick off 12 noon. On January 23 they play Buenos Aires at Llandaff North, more details at a later date.

The first team have their final fixture of 2015 this Saturday, December 19, away at Tonyrefail; this has been moved from December 26; the first game of 2016 will be on January 2 at home against Tylorstown.

RV/RK/GT

Black tie dinner for past captains



BRYNHILL past captains held their gala dinner on Friday, December 11.

The captains and their guests enjoyed an excellent meal by the club caterers, Gareth and Mark Domett.

The past captains entertained the guests with an impromptu sing song. Many of the guests thought that they should start a choir as their voices sounded so good.

Thanks go to the organiser Mr Tony Cook for all his hard work, which made a very enjoyable evening for everyone.

JK

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Sports under-10s fired up in Llantwit clashes

BRIDGEND Sports under-10s were fired up for Sunday's round robin fixtures against Llantwit Fardre and Llantwit Major.

With one game in the last four weeks, the players and coaches were determined that the weather was not going to frustrate their efforts for a further week.

The omens looked good as the sun made a brief appearance and the Blue and Whites won the toss to start the first game against the fancied Llantwit Fardre side, but it was the Fardre that scored first as the Sports were forced into touch from an early run.

Fardre re-started play quickly to put their players in space, where the lively Steffan Emmanuel sprinted down the touchline from halfway to score.

The Sports did not let the score dampen their enthusiasm.

They soon put together some delightful phases of play, with good rucking combined with some deft off-loading and handling skills that soon paid dividends.

Joel Rogers split the defence with a skilful run into space to

score the try that brought the scores level. It was then a case of a focused defensive effort that denied Llantwit Fardre possession with Iestyn John, Joel Rogers and Hari Williams prominent in the tackle area.

Hari Williams was rewarded for his efforts as he supported play, waited for a pass and then spotted a gap in defence to score from six metres out. Cian John secured a three tries to one lead going into half-time for Bridgend Sports when he simply left the away team dead in their tracks following a typical jinking run to the line from 15 metres out.

With Llantwit Fardre starting the game in the second half, the Sports needed to ensure their defensive effort reached the high standard of their attacking prowess in the first half.

They did not disappoint with some solid tackling and effort from Callum Lewis, Cian John, Joel Rogers and Hari Williams. They soon robbed their opponents of possession to set Cian John free again, as he raced in for his second try.

Llantwit Fardre raised their

game in response and showed their quality to level the second half score when they worked the ball wide for Lewis Harris to sprint down the wing to score the final try of the game to take the score to 4-2 in Bridgend Sports favour.

Llantwit Major faced the Blue and Whites next; the Red and Blacks could not darken the home team's spirit and ambition to play open, attractive running rugby.

The rugby they produced brought a smile to supporters. It clearly showed the young players are beginning to adapt to the challenge of physical contact game at the ruck and tackle area. The home team scored two tries, one from Joel Rogers and the other from Callum Lewis, before Llantwit Major registered their first try.

The Sports' confidence was growing and it was not long before the two try lead was restored when Mackenzie Dent made a run. He was tackled, but Hari Williams cleaned out at the ruck, for Mason Balmer, Dewi Worrall and Tom Chick to combine and take play deep into the Llantwit Major half, before passing to Ieuan Pilliner.

He received the ball 10 metres out, he changed the angle of attack and span out of a tackle to score.

Joel Rogers was next to score, as Dylan Morgan gathered a loose Llantwit Major kick, made a break to set up a ruck Joe Rogers received the ball from the ruck, with plenty to do.

He used his pace and eye for the gap to cut through the defence to score his hat-trick of tries for the morning.

Cian John was not to be outdone and he claimed his third when he received the ball on the halfway line; he set off on a run full of pace before throwing the opposition with a couple of side steps to score.

It was another John, this time Iestyn John, who scored next, following good support and handling skills displayed by Hari Williams, Mason Balmer, Cian John and Dewi Worrall.

Hari Williams popped up again to change the angle before the ball was passed onto Iestyn John to score.

Llantwit Major, to their great credit, halted the Sports' momentum by scoring next, but it was Joel Rogers who had the last

say of the half as he claimed his fourth try to give Bridgend Sports a 7-2 lead.

With a healthy lead the Sports entered the final period with the same level of determination that they started the day with. Llantwit Major attacked from the start but the Sports snuffed out each attack through solid tackling and counter rucking.

From one ruck, the ball was worked to Bailey Llewellyn Hopkins who showed good skill when he took the ball into a ruck and placed it well for fellow players to gather and move it quickly to Joel Rogers who sprinted in to score.

Hari Williams claimed his second try before the final score of the day saw Ben King take the ball five metres from his own line and run the length of the field, breaking several tackles to secure the overall 10 points to two win for the Sports.

In the final game of the morning it was Fardre that over powered the Major with a six points to nil win to conclude an excellent morning of rugby.

SP



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WALES TO PLAY ENGLAND,
SLOVAKIA AND RUSSIA
AT EURO 2016, BUT...

Let's not get distracted by this 'battle of Britain'!

THERE was something almost fateful as Wales found themselves drawn in Group B of the 2016 European Championships with Roy Hodgson's England.

With England a top seed and Chris Coleman's men, along with Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, in the bottom seeds, a 'battle of Britain' seemed a certainty, but the draw which pitted the dragon against the three lions had an almost predictable air about it.

With Slovakia and Russia making up the other half of the group, focus almost immediately went on the home nations, something that both managers were keen to play down, sensibly so as the tournament is far more than just one game against the rivals from across the Severn Bridge.

It's a kind group for Wales, one that could have been better, could have been worse, but one that is

certainly eminently qualifiable from, with the four best third-placed teams reaching the knock-out stages along with the top two from each group.

A top two finish isn't beyond the means of a confident and talented Welsh team who proved in qualifying that they are match for any side, notably taking four points from the two games against FIFA's best team in the world, Belgium.

While both Russia and Slovakia will testing opposition, they are certainly beatable, but the big test will come from an England side who - whisper it quietly - have shown the potential to be one of the teams of the tournament.

While neither side will be sidetracked by media hype, there's no doubt that this game will have an extra edge to it - but it will be a mark of how far Coleman's team have come to see how they fare against our neighbours.

One thing's for sure - it's going to be a thrill ride of a tournament!

GARETH JAMIESON

Barry knocked out as Porth power pack rule in the mud



ABOVE: Barry RFC exited the Swalec Plate on Saturday in a muddy encounter with Porth - HOWARD POOLE braved the conditions to grab these pictures of the action.

ON a day when most fixtures were victims of the weather, Barry travelled to unbeaten Porth in the second round of the Swalec Plate.

Despite huge efforts by the club to remove surface water from the pitch, conditions were far from ideal and became worse as the wind and driving rain made for an error-strewn game which nevertheless didn't lack effort and energy from the players.

Barry played with the elements in the first half and it was obvious that the far heavier home pack would be a major influence on the outcome of the game and so this proved to be.

Dominating territory in the opening minutes, Barry pressed for an early score but while getting close, they were unable to breach the home defence and had to be content with a couple of penalties, one of which was kicked by Baros to give them the lead.

As expected, Porth were finding it difficult to get momentum into their game and use their speedy backs. When they

managed to get ball, keeping it in hand was proving impossible.

Changing tactics to kicking brought rewards as Barry were now being forced to deal with the slippery ball and, following a series of scrums, their line was breached as they were driven over the line to concede a try after 20 minutes.

This coincided with a period of sustained pressure from the home side who conjured a second try following some indiscipline at the breakdown to give them a lead of 12-3.

Undeterred Barry, came back with some good interplay and again got close to scoring but once again their only reward was a penalty converted by Baros.

Before half-time, Barry were defending on their line and, despite winning the ball lost it in contact to concede a soft try. It was a score that their hard work didn't deserve.

This last passage of play before half-time gave the home side a 17-6 lead.

It was obvious that the home team, with their advantage up front and the elements in their

favour, would seek to keep Barry penned back and so it was as they drove to the line from an early penalty to score and extend their lead.

Porth were not to have it all their own way as Barry somehow managed to get some parity at the scrum and their efforts were worthy of some reward but it was not to be.

Still enjoying most of the possession, Porth were able to create two further tries as conditions by now had turned the game into a lottery and as

the light faded, both sides were glad to hear the final whistle.

Despite this loss, Barry can be proud of their efforts and despite playing a very good opponent the score does not truly reflect this result. The sides will meet twice in the league before the season end, hopefully on dry ground.

This weekend Barry travel to Penarth in a return league fixture with Barry looking to avenge the home defeat earlier in the season. Kick off is 2.30pm

While Saturday's game was a lottery, the lottery on people's lips is the new Barry Rugby Club Lottery, to be launched on January 9.

The aim of the lottery is to enable the club to maintain and improve the facilities currently provided for over 300 players in an environment where costs are escalating year by year.

Full details are available from the clubhouse, so don't delay get involved today! AJ

Barry Chess Club's poor run continues

THE poor run of results for the Barry Chess Club continues into the middle of December. Three of our teams were involved in away league matches this week but could only muster one draw from them.

Just over a week ago in division 4 the Gambits travelled to Bridgend. With only one player in our side with a rating in excess of 1,000 we did not expect to earn many points.

However with Huw and Merlin Davies both earning their first league wins the final score was a very creditable 3-2.

Huw currently tops our player performance table with a 100 per cent record, albeit having only played one match.

On Wednesday our top team, the Bosons made the short trip to Cardiff to take on the Bishops.

The two teams were evenly matched in ratings terms. The match finished all square with draws on all five boards.

The pick of our performances came from Ken Hannah and Dave Parsons on boards 4 and 5 where their opponents were ranked at least 50 points above them.

This result is a true reflection of where the Bosons stand in the division. We are effectively fighting the Bishops and the North Cardiff Woodpushers for third place in the league.

Also this week the Camelots visited Pontypridd to take on the Barbarians. A few short weeks ago the Barbarians were in the relegation

spots.

However, single handedly, the Barry club are doing their best to keep the Pontypridd team in the top division.

Having recently defeated the Bosons 3.5 to 1.5, the Barbarians must have hoped for another good result.

They achieved this by defeating the Camelots by 4.5 to 0.5.

Rhys Steele earned our draw to keep up our record of not being whitewashed in any game this season.

The Camelots are now 10 points away from safety with 10 games still left to play. While it is mathematically possible for the Camelots to avoid relegation, it is looking highly improbable.

We are fighting against the Barbarians who have 20 points including the 8.5 they took from us.

Perhaps now our target will be to avoid the wooden spoon as we are three points ahead of St John's College.

The Barry Chess Club meets at 7.30 pm each Monday at the West End Club, St. Nicholas Road, Barry CF62 6QY. The club is open to players of all standards; whether you are interested in playing competitive chess or just the occasional friendly games.

New players are very welcome to just turn up on the night but if you contact one of the club members through the website we can explain what is happening on the night you have in mind, and arrange for someone to greet you on your arrival.

For more details visit our website at <http://barrychessclub.yolasite.com>. Phil Jones

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